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Contributors

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**East Retford
Urban District Council.**

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1914.

BY

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Retford :

PRINTED BY WHARTON & LONG, GROVE STREET,

1915.

To the
Mayor, Aldermen, & Council
of the Borough of East Retford.

Gentlemen,

I have been asked to prepare the report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1914.

As my appointment to the office of Medical Officer of Health to the Borough is only recent, I am not able of my own personal knowledge to say much, but have to rely on the notes made by my predecessor and on the help of the Sanitary Staff to whom I am much obliged by their assistance which has been most freely given.

Towards the autumn of the year, the Medical Officer of Health was taken ill and never really recovered sufficiently to take an active part in his work, and in November, ill-health compelled him to send in his resignation.

Population. I have estimated the population at the middle of the year to be 13,716, an increase of 191 over that for the preceding year; this number I have used in making calculations for birth and death rates, etc.

Births. The births registered in the district numbered 343, in addition there were two occurred outside the district but to parents resident in the Borough, this brings the total to 345, giving a birth rate of 25.13 per thousand, an increase of 3.4 per thousand over last year.

Of these 169 were males and 174 were females. There were 3 still-births notified.

The numbers in each of the four registration sub-districts are as follows:—

East Retford...	...	...	90
West Retford	...	...	19
Ordsall	...	...	147
North Retford	...	...	87

The Early Notification of Births Act has been adopted in the Borough. A Health Visitor, appointed by the Ladies' Health Association examines the Register (which is kept by the Medical Officer of Health) twice a week, and visits all the houses where a birth has been notified, except in those cases where a Medical Practitioner in attendance has directed otherwise and advises the mother as to the care of herself and the infant, and leaves a paper of simple instructions. The mother is encouraged to bring her baby for inspection and weighing regularly. Hitherto an inspection of the babies has been held by medical practitioners practising in the town in rotation once a month, and the mothers are then further instructed and if there be anything wrong with the child this is pointed out and advice given.

This co-operation has been found to work very well and to be a valuable asset to the infant welfare of the town.

Deaths. The total deaths registered in the district were 188, giving a crude death rate of 13.7 per thousand. In addition to this 7 residents died away, these must be added to the number and 17 non-residents died in the district either in public Institutions or otherwise and must be subtracted giving the corrected number as 178 and a nett death rate of 12.97 per thousand.

This rate corrected for age and sex distribution gives a standard death rate of 12.1 per thousand.

The deaths under one year of age numbered 32, a rate of 92.75 per thousand births.

The comparative figures for the five years 1909 to 1914 will be found on Table I, and the causes of deaths at all ages on Tables III and IV given below. Deaths from the four principal zymotic diseases are given on Table V.

Description. The Municipal Borough of East Retford comprises the Urban District of that name. It is situated in the Hundred of Bassetlaw in the northern portion of the County of Nottingham.

The River Idle, a tributary of the Trent, flows through the town. The river is not navigable.

The Chesterfield Canal passes through the town, and there is some traffic of barges thereon.

The Great Northern and Great Central Railways form a junction in the town.

The soil on the west of the town consists of conglomerate and sandstone, on the east of clay through which run veins of gypsum and there are occasional beds of sandstone. The river forms a rough division between the two characteristic soils. On either side of the river there is alluvial soil.

The population consists largely of the Industrial classes together with a considerable number engaged in trade. There is also a certain number of the purely residential type.

There are several factories employing a considerable number of hands, principally foundries, engineering works, india-rubber works, and laundry and dye works; there are many employed by the Railway Companies and in Agriculture.

There is a well equipped Hospital and Dispensary maintained by voluntary contributions and staffed by five of the medical practitioners of the town and a Consulting Surgeon from Sheffield, who are all honorary. This Institution maintains a District Nurse who visits patients at their homes and takes her instructions from the Medical Man attending the cases.

Water Supply. This is in the hands of the Municipal Authority. The water is obtained from a deep bore through the New Red Sandstone over the Bunter beds and situated in the Parish of Ordsall. The supply is excellent both as to quantity and quality; an analysis is made periodically, it is found to be reasonably soft, wholesome, and suitable for domestic purposes. The supply is constant. The hamlet of Little Gringley is the only portion of the Borough not so supplied, here water is obtained from a deep bore in the adjoining parish of Grove, the supply is constant. The bore is a private one owned by the Landlord of all that property.

Rivers and Streams. The River Idle and its tributaries are the only natural watercourses within the area of the Borough. There has been much pollution in the past but this is being gradually overcome and the pollution is not so great now as formerly.

Drainage and Sewerage. There is an efficient Sewage System and Disposal Works. The latter are situated in North Retford. The Sewage is raised to the Works by compressed air, it is then treated chemically, and the effluent is irrigated through land.

Closet Accommodation. The work of connecting these with the drainage system is proceeding. There are 3,120 water closets and 120 pail or tub-closets. During the year 34 privies and 10 pail closets have been abolished. The privy middens are now almost done away with.

Scavenging. For house refuse, for the most part movable iron bins are used, these are emptied weekly. There are a few fixed receptacles, which are emptied monthly.

Pail closets are cleaned weekly and twice a week.

Inspection of the District. The District is inspected by both the Medical Officer and the Inspector of Nuisances acting together and separately. The Inspector's report is given below on page 17.

Premises, etc., controlled by bye-laws and regulations :—

Slaughter Houses, there are 19.

Dairies and Cowsheds, there are 31.

Milkshops, there are 14.

Common Lodging Houses, there is only 1.

Reports by the different Inspectors are given below.

Milk Supply. Milk is supplied by farmers both in the Borough and in the surrounding rural district. The former are inspected by the Medical Officer and by the Sanitary Inspector, the supply is good and the premises well kept. With regard to the latter, there is close touch between the Urban and Rural Sanitary Officials.

Schools. The sanitary condition of these is good. The Medical Officer of Health is also the School Medical Officer, and a separate report on the schools is published.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act. This is administered by the County Council. I append here the report of their Inspector.

Articles purchased by the Inspectors for Examination and Analysis.			Examined by the Inspectors	Result Correct	Result of Analysis; showing whether the Sample was genuine or adulterated.
Butter	-	6						6 Genuine
Cocoa	-	1			1 "
Coffee	-	2			2 "
Ground Ginger	-	1			1 "
Jam	-	1			1 "
Milk	-	9	8	8	1 "
Pepper	-	1			1 "
Pearl Barley	-	2			2 "
Totals			8	8	15 Genuine
Informal Milks					
Total of all samples					

Number of Informal Samples of Milk tested by the Inspectors by "Gerber" Tester:—

		RESULT.	
		Correct.	Incorrect.
Number of Samples taken by the Inspectors	-	100	14
Number submitted by Milk Retailers to the Inspectors	-	2	0
Number submitted by Milk Producers to the Inspectors	-	38	8
Totals	-	140	22

Housing. The number of houses is sufficient for the population. Four cases of overcrowding were found all of which were remedied.

Housing and Town Planning Act. A report on the work done under this Act will be found in the report of the Inspector below.

Public Health Acts Adopted are the Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, and the Early Notification of Births Act, 1907. There is no local Act, but there are Bye-Laws in force respecting

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops;
 The Drainage of Existing Buildings;
 New Streets and Buildings and Alteration of
 Buildings;
 The Coronation Playing Field.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There is an Isolation Hospital for the reception of Scarlet Fever cases and also a hospital built primarily for the reception of Small Pox, the latter is used occasionally when an epidemic of other infectious disease is threatened. It has been open twice during the past year.

All houses where a case of infectious disease occurs are inspected, and on the termination of the case or removal to hospital are disinfected by the Sanitary Staff. Disinfectants are supplied gratis where required.

In cases of Diphtheria in persons of small means Anti-diphtheritic serum is supplied to the patient gratis.

In all, 72 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year, of which two cases of diphtheria were fatal.

The following table gives the incidence of the cases month by month. Table IV gives the incidence in age groups and districts, whilst on Table V will be found the incidence and deaths from the four principal diseases for the past ten years and the deaths therefrom.

The total number of cases removed to hospital during the year was 35. Of these, 30 were scarlet fever and 5 diphtheria.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE YEAR 1914.

Month.	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Poliomy- elitis	Total
January -	4	4	7				15
February -	1	1	3				5
March -	—	1	2				3
April -	1	—	1				2
May -	—	4	—				4
June -	—	1	2				3
July -	1	2	—				3
August -	3	2	1				6
September -	1	2	3			1	7
October -	—	1	14				15
November -	3	—	3				6
December -	—	1	2				3
Totals -	14	19	38			1	72

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles was fairly prevalent during the early part of the year, necessitating school closure on several occasions.

Whooping Cough was also very prevalent.

Influenza was noticable in the early months, and there was one death from this disease.

Infantile Mortality and Infant Health.

I have already adverted to the existence of a Ladies' Health Association and the visits of a Health Visitor employed by this body.

The work being done is undoubtedly good and of benefit to the town. More might be done if all the births were notified, which is not the case. The Health Visitor frequently finds cases where a birth has not been notified, and although she does what she can there are many who are not known of as may be seen by the fact that although there were 343 births registered only 286 were notified to the Medical Officer. Three cases of still birth were notified.

TABLE I. VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1914 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths. †		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.*	Rate.	of Non-residents not register'd in the District. †	of Resi-dents register'd in the District †	Under 1 Yr of Age		Number*	Rate.
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909..	13698	366		26.7	192	14.0	14	4	31	84.7	182	13.3
1910..	13865	335		26.4	176	12.6	14	6	30	81.9	168	12.1
1911..	13386	360	356	26.6	222	16.6	17	8	58	162.9	213	15.9
1912..	13439	312		23.2	182	13.5	11	10	28	89.7	181	13.4
1913..	13521	296	294	21.7	176	13.0	12	7	23	78.2	171	12.6
1914..	13716	343	345	25.13	188	13.7	17	7	32	92.75	178	12.97

NOTES.—This Table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrected rates probably will not be available. The rates should be calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population. In a district in which large Public Institutions for the sick or infirm seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Columns 5 and 13 may be calculated on a nett population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

* In Column 6 are to be included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district.

In column 12 is to be entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in column 8 and by addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are to be similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in Column 8, and by addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 4498. Total population at all ages, 13386. Number of inhabited houses, 3140. Estimated average number of persons per house, 4.55. Standard death rate, 12.1.

VITAL STATISTICS—continued. TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1914.

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 East Retford.	2 West Retford.	3 North Retford.	4 Ordsall.	1	2	3	4
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65									65 and upwards
Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera, Plague ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
INCLUDING Membranous Group ..	14	3	10	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	19	..	1	1	6	7	4	5	5	7	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	38	2	28	3	5	..	..	..	..	26	..	..	..	..	30
Typhus fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	18	..	..	5	11	2	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	5	..	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	95	5	43	11	23	9	4	21	48	35	..	..	..	..	35

The Isolation Hospital is "Arlington House," New Street, East Retford. Total available beds, 12. Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, Scarlet Fever alone.

The Small Pox Isolation Hospital, in Grove Lane, has also been used for the reception of Diphtheria cases. This Hospital is situate on the outskirts of the Town, in the Parish of North Retford.

VITAL STATISTICS—continued. TABLE III.
Causes of, and Ages at Death during Year 1914.
East Retford Urban District.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring in or beyond 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 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 Uncertified)	172 1	32 ...	7 ...	7 ..	10 ...	5 ...	19 ..	30 ...	62 1	28 ...	
Enteric Fever -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles -	7	3	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup -	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza -	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Erysipelas -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	15	...	...	...	...	3	7	5	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	11	...	...	...	..	...	2	5	4	1
Rheumatic Fever -	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis -	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	6	2
Bronchitis -	10	3	...	1	..	...	2	...	4	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	13	4	2	2	1	...	1	2	1	2	
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs -	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	6	4	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver -	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Alcoholism -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Dis- ease -	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	7	...
Puerperal Fever -	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, including Pre- mature Birth -	12	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide -	7	..	...	1	3	...	1	1	1	1
Suicide -	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Other Defined Diseases	35	4	3	...	1	1	3	7	16	10	
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	27	1	...	..	...	...	1	2	23	5
All causes	178	32	7	7	11	5	22	31	63	28	

VITAL STATISTICS—continued. TABLE IV.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of age

CAUSES 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	7	3	2	4	16	2	1	5	8	32
{ Uncertified										
Small-pox										
Chicken-pox										
Measles								1	2	3
Scarlet Fever										
Whooping Cough										
Diphtheria : Croup										
Erysipelas										
Tuberculous Meningitis									1	1
Abdominal Tubercul- [osis										
Other Tuberculous Diseases										
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)										
Convulsions		1			1			1		2
Laryngitis										
Bronchitis				1	1			1	1	3
Pneumonia, all forms								1	3	4
Diarrhœa						1				1
Enteritis			1		1		1		1	3
Gastritis										
Syphilis								1		1
Rickets										
Suffocation, Overlying										
Injury at birth										
Atelectasis										
Congenital Malformations	1				1					1
Premature Birth	6	1			7					7
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus		1	1	2	4					4
Other Causes				1	1	1				2
Totals	7	3	2	4	16	2	1	5	8	32

District of East Retford Borough. Births in the year : legitimate 327, illegitimate 18.

Deaths in the year of legitimate infants, 30 ; illegitimate, 2.

TABLE V.

Year.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.		Scarlet Fever.		Enteric Fever.		Phthisis*		Total Cases.	Total Deaths.	Total Deaths, all causes.
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.			
1905	14	2	122	—	4	2	—	9	140	13	200
1906	3	1	11	—	9	1	—	9	23	11	198
1907	1	—	15	1	1	1	—	15	17	17	152
1908	3	1	9	—	3	1	—	12	15	14	167
1909	9	2	15	—	4	—	—	5	28	7	182
1910	1	—	10	—	1	1	—	4	12	5	168
1911	9	—	19	1	5	—	—	17	33	18	213
1912	31	1	22	1	63	2	23	16	139	20	181
1913	56	3	34	—	1	—	13	3	103	6	171
1914	14	2	38	—	—	—	18	15	70	17	178
Average for 10 years.	14.1	1.2	29.5	.3	9.1	.8	—	—	58	12.8	179

* Phthisis was generally notifiable after 1911.

The Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

There are 86 workshops on the register. They are inspected by the Medical Officer and the Inspector of Nuisances.

They are fairly well kept and clean.

The outworkers are inspected.

There have been no legal proceedings during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HANWAY R. BEALE.

Retford,

March, 1915.

**Annual Report of the Borough Surveyor,
Inspector of Nuisances, and Housing Officer.**

To Dr. HANWAY RICHARD BEALE,

M.D. (London), L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1914.

Number and Nature of Inspections.

- 399 Inspections and re-inspections, principally in connection with drainage and conversion of privies into water-closets, entailing a considerable amount of work in testing old drains and searching for defects, including also inspection of factories, workshops, slaughter-houses, bake-houses, dairies, cowsheds, and milk-shops, houses as to condition and alleged overcrowding, schools, house refuse, manure accumulations, keeping of swine and other animals, dangerous structures, river pollution, and trade works, and investigations after notifications of infectious disease.
- 18 Water tests and visits during the construction of house drains and water closets.
- 110 Smoke tests of last and shaft joints upon completion of house drains and water closets.
- 34 New buildings during progress.
-
- 651 Total.

Number of houses served :—

Statutory	-	-	4
Informal	-	-	<u>32</u>
			<u>36</u>

Notices complied with 34, leaving 2 not complied with.

DRAINAGE AND CONVERSION PROGRESS, 1914.

Houses connected to New Sewers ...	...	45
Sewage drains laid, approved and tested	yards	1050
No. of Sewage Gulleys ...	...	80
„ Intercepting Traps	...	18
„ Ventilating Shafts...	...	20
„ Inspection Chambers	...	61
„ W.C.'s connected ...	...	76
„ Privies abolished ...	...	34
„ Pail closets abolished	...	10
„ Cesspools abolished	...	1
Total houses within drainage area, Dec. 31, 1914,		3088
Total houses connected to December 31st, 1914		<u>2940</u>
Houses yet to be connected	...	148

Year.	Houses connected.	Privies and pail closets abolished.
1902	367	149
1903	229	76
1904	215	147
1905	313	116
1906	252	174
1907	332	224
1908	251	179
1909	203	177
1910	202	147
1911	115	78
1912	218	204
1913	198	215
1914	45	44
	<u>2940</u>	<u>1930</u>

Housing Acts. Twenty-six houses have been inspected.

The general character of the defects found to exist were insufficient lighting and ventilation; floors, walls, and ceilings out of repair; stairs out of repair and without handrails and guards; leaky roofs; spouting deficient or out of repair; dampness; yards insufficiently or badly paved; insufficient drainage and sanitary accommodation.

Nature of work carried out in respect of twenty houses:—

Privies destroyed; premises newly drained; water closets and refuse receptacles provided; food stores lighted and ventilated; staircases repaired and provided with handrails; yards re-paved; walls, floors, and ceilings put into proper repair, etc.

In addition to the foregoing, special examinations in detail of 48 houses as to defective drainage and sanitary accommodation have been made, and works of providing new drains and water closets executed.

Overcrowding. Seven houses have been inspected for alleged overcrowding, and *four* were found to be so.

Abatement was effected in all the cases by arrangement.

Infectious Disease Prevention. Forty-eight houses and 339 articles have been disinfected at the expense of the Council.

River Pollution. The investigations as to the discharge of trade waste liquors into the River Idle and its tributaries have been continued.

Schools. The drains of the whole of the Public Elementary Schools have been periodically inspected and flushed, and the interiors of the schools and conveniences disinfected and purified.

Cowsheds, Dairies, etc. These have been periodically inspected. In two cases notices under the Drains, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of 1885, and under the Regulations made by the Town Council with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops, have been served.

Slaughter Houses. These have been periodically inspected. One new license has been granted for the use and occupation of certain premises as a knacker's yard.

Building Progress. Nineteen plans approved for 8 houses, 1 warehouse, 1 bakery, 1 assembly hall, 2 factory extensions, 11 additions and alterations.

Certificates have been issued for 9 new houses fit for human habitation.

Rainfall Tables.

Taken at the Sewerage Disposal Works, Bolham.
Height of gauge above approximate mean water
at Liverpool, 74 ft. Height of gauge above ground, 1 ft.

Month.	1914.		1913.	
	Inches.	No. of Days Rain Fell.	Inches.	No. of Days Rain Fell.
January ...	1.27	15	3.28	19
February ...	1.13	14	1.12	16
March ...	1.91	21	2.88	19
April ...	.84	9	2.41	19
May ...	2.50	13	2.19	10
June	2.09	10	.76	12
July	2.27	16	.63	9
August	1.92	15	1.37	8
September	1.46	10	2.26	17
October ...	2.43	14	2.67	13
November	2.78	21	1.83	18
December ...	4.85	27	1.41	10
Total	22.81	185	22.81	170

Heaviest rainfall during one day in 1914, .89 on the 1st July.

Snow fell on one day in January, and two days in November. Average rainfall for Retford for the last 5 years, 26.58 inches on 191 days.

J. D. KENNEDY,
Borough Surveyor.

"A."

APPENDIX.

Report of Inspector of Meat.

To the MAYOR, ALDERMEN, & COUNCILLORS
of the Borough of East Retford.

Gentlemen,

I beg to report for your information that during the past year I have inspected the Butchers' and Fishmongers' shops, and also the Shambles and Fish-market in the Borough every week, and found both the meat and fish of very good quality.

I have also visited the Slaughter Houses regularly and found them clean and in good order.

During the past year I have inspected at the Cattle Market Slaughter House 7 carcasses of sheep and 2 of calves, all of which I passed, also 2 carcasses of pigs belonging to Rose Ellen Tindall, of Markham Clinton, which were brought to the Market in a cart with several other pigs, and on arrival there were found to be dead, and on being dressed I found them to be unfit for human food.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. VALPY THOMAS.

*County Police Station,
Retford.
November 3rd, 1914.*

“ B. ”

Report of the Canal Boats Inspector.

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the Sanitary
Committee.

Gentlemen,

I have inspected about all the boats on the register during the year. One new boat has been registered to Furley & Co., Gainsborough. One boat, "Industry," has been destroyed and cleared from the Canal. The remaining boats are in good condition and very clean. His Majesty's Chief Inspector has not paid me a visit this year.

LODGING HOUSE.

I have made the usual inspections in the Spring and Autumn. The lime washing was done in March. The Autumn cleaning was completed on the 9th of October this year. The living kitchen is done four times a year. In my bedtime visits I have not found the beds all occupied. I have no complaint to make, for the house is kept very clean.

Yours obediently,

RICHARD GIBSON.

Town Hall.

Retford.

1st November, 1914

“C.”

Report of the Petroleum Inspector.

To W. PERCIVAL JONES, Esq., Town Clerk,
Retford, Notts.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to report for your information that there are at the present time, within the area of your Local Authority, fourteen licensed stores for keeping Petroleum Spirit, and the maximum quantity that may be kept approximates 20,000 gallons.

The premises of the licensees have been inspected from time to time during the year, and the requirements of the Petroleum Acts have been complied with.

Numerous samples of petroleum oil have been purchased and tested for flash point and found satisfactory.

The number of licenses and the quantity of petroleum spirit that may be stored, having greatly increased since my appointment as your Inspector, and the work of inspection and responsibility having become correspondingly greater, it is now out of all proportion to the salary received by me, viz.: £2/2/0 per annum, and I respectfully submit an application for an increase.

I am, Dear Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM CRABTREE,

Petroleum Inspector.

*Notts. County Council,
Weights and Measures Office,
Exchange Street,
Retford, Notts.*

October 30th, 1914.