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#### **Contributors**

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## Borough of East Retford.

### ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1937

BY

Lieut.-Col. J. M. H. Conway,

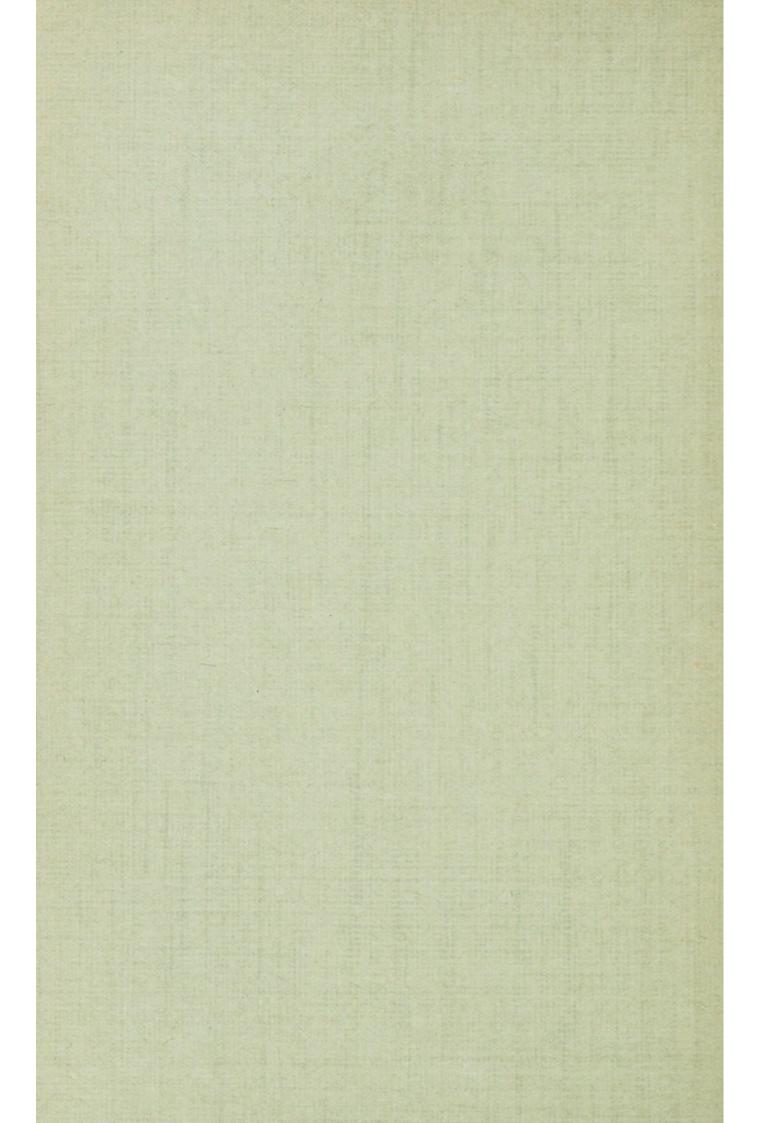
D.S.O., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

#### Retford :

Printed by R. F. LONG, Bridgegate.

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## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, RETFORD.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of East Retford.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the Borough during the year 1937. The Report has been compiled in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health in their Circular 1650, dated the 4th October, 1937.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. H. CONWAY.

# Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area 4,656 acres
Registrar General's estimate of Resident
Population mid-year 1937 15,090
Number of inhabited houses
Rateable value (April, 1938) £88,725
Sum represented by a penny rate

The chief industries in the Town are:-

Wire Manufacture,
Manufacture of Rubber Goods,
Dyeing and Cleaning,
Constructional Engineering,
Iron Founding,
Wall Paper Manufacture,
Agriculture.

## Vital Statistics.

LIVE	BIRTHS-		Total	M	F	
	Legitimat		220	125	95	
D:	Illegitima		10	5	5	
Birth	Rate per 1,0 ,, for Er	oo estima igland an	d Wales p	t population er 1,000 po	n opulation	$15.2 \\ 14.9$
STIL	L BIRTHS-		Total	M	F	0.01
	Legitima		8	4	4	
D .	Illegitim		. 0	0	0	
	per 1,000 T( per 1,000 est			··· ··· ···		33.61
Rate	per 1,000 est	ulation in	England a	and Wales		$0.53 \\ 0.60$
DEAT			Total	M	F	0.00
DEAT	110		194	100	94	
Deatl	h Rate per 1,0	000 of the	estimated	resident po	pulation	12.8
Deatl	h Rate per 1.0	000 popula	tion in Eng	gland and V	Ŵales	12.4
Deat	h Rate adjust Registrar-G	ed in acco	rdance wit	h the	ootor	12.07
				arability F	actor	12.07
MATE	ERNAL MOR	TALITY-	-			
Deatl	hs from Puer					
	Puerperal Other Pu	Sepsis erperal ca				Nil Nil
Mate	rnal Mortality	per 1,000	total birth	ns		Nil
Mater	rnal Mortality	for Eng	land and V	Wales		3.11
INFA	NTILE MOR	TALITY-	_		Total M	Г
	ns of all infa	nts under				F
Death			1 year of	age	. 14 8	
	ns of Legitima	ate infants	s under 1 y	year of age	13 7	6 6
Death		ate infants	s under 1 y	year of age	13 7	6 6
Death	ns of Legitima	ate infants ate infant	s under 1 y	year of age year of age	13 7	6 6 0
Year	ns of Legitima	ate infants	s under 1 y	year of age	2 13 7 2 1 1 Deaths	6 6 0 under
	ns of Legitimans of Illegitim	Deaths u	s under 1 year 1000 1 yeate ill	year of age year of age aths under ear per 1000 egitimate	Deaths 1 year p	6 6 0 under er 1000
	ns of Legitimans of Illegitimans of Illegitimans	Deaths u	s under 1 year 1000 1 yeate ill	year of age year of age aths under ear per 1000	Deaths 1 year p	6 6 0 under er 1000
Year	Deaths under 1 year of age	Deaths u 1 year pe legitim live bir	ander 1 year 1000 late lib	year of age year of age aths under ear per 1000 egitimate ve births	Deaths 1 year p	6 6 0 under er 1000 al
Year 1930 1931	Deaths under 1 year of age	Deaths u 1 year pe legitim live bir 65.3	under 1 year 1 y	year of age year of age aths under ear per 1000 egitimate ve births 66.67 142.86	Deaths 1 year p tot live bi 65. 85.	under er 1000 al erths
Year 1930 1931 1932	Deaths under 1 year of age	Deaths u 1 year pe legitim live bir 65.3 84.3 80.5	under 1 year 1 y	year of age year of age aths under ear per 1000 egitimate ve births 66.67 142.86 90.91	Deaths 1 year p tot live bi  65. 85.	6 6 0 under er 1000 al erths 38 94 97
Year 1930 1931	Deaths under 1 year of age	Deaths u 1 year pe legitim live bir 65.3	under 1 year 1000 1 yeate ths 1131	year of age year of age aths under ear per 1000 egitimate ve births 66.67 142.86	Deaths 1 year p tot live bi  65. 80 84.	6 6 0 under er 1000 al erths 38 94 97 5
Year  1930 1931 1932 1933 1934 1935	Deaths under 1 year of age  17 22 20 17 9 8	Deaths u 1 year pe legitim live bir 65.3 84.3 80.5 90.4 40.1	under 1 year 1000 1 yeate ths 1131	year of age year of age aths under ear per 1000 egitimate ve births  66.67 142.86 90.91 230.7 Nil Nil	Deaths 1 year p tot live bi  65. 85. 80 84. 38. 40.	6 6 0 under er 1000 al irths 38 94 97 5 1
Year  1930 1931 1932 1933 1934	Deaths under 1 year of age  17 22 20 17 9	Deaths u 1 year pe legitim live bir 65.3 84.3 80.5 90.4 40.1	under 1 year 1000 1 yeate ths 1131	year of age year of age aths under ear per 1000 egitimate ve births  66.67 142.86 90.91 230.7 Nil	Deaths 1 year p tot live bi  65. 85. 80. 84. 38.	6 6 0 under er 1000 al irths 38 94 97 5 1 6

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births in England and Wales ... 58.0

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age during the year was 14, 8 males and 6 females, giving a death rate of 60.8, as compared with that for England and Wales which is 58.0.

Four of the deaths were due to Pneumonia, and four to prematurity, two were due to convulsions, and one each to congenital debility, marasmus, icterus neonatorum, and spina bifida. Five of these infants did not survive their birth a week, and only three of them attended at the Child Welfare Centre.

#### MORTALITY.

The number of deaths at all ages registered during the year was 194, 100 males and 94 females, giving a death rate of 12.8, as compared with that for England and Wales, which is 12.4.

The above number includes the deaths of 21 persons in institutions outside the Borough, 12 males and 9 females.

The death rate from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System was 0.26.

The death rate from Cancer was 1.85.

The death rate from Pneumonia was 1.19.

The above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General as 15,090.

#### The causes of death were:-

Liver diseases	3	Bronchitis	6
Digestive diseases	3	Pneumonia (all forms)	18
Acute and chronic nephritis	3	Peptic Ulcer	-
Congenital debility,		Appendicitis	
prematurity, etc.	8	Cirrhosis of liver	
Senility		Diphtheria	
Suicide	1	T., ()	
Other violence	6	Tuberculosis of the	9
Other defined diseases		respiratory system	
		Other tubered in	
Diabetes	4	Other tuberculosis	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	14	Syphilis	1
Heart disease	22	G.P.I., tabes, etc	1
Other circulatory discoses	11	C tabes, etc	1
Other circulatory diseases	11	Cancer	28

# General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

#### Public Health Officers of the Authority.

- (a) Medical.
- Medical Officer of Health-Lieut. Col. J. M. H. Conway, D.S.O., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H., (Cambridge University).
- Also Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.
- School Dental Officer-L. A. Mackley, Esq., L.D.S., R.C.S., (Eng.)
  - (b) Others.
- Veterinary Surgeon-Richard Hudson, Esq., F.R.C.V.S., (part time only).
- Sanitary Inspector—Mr. F. R. Smith, Cert. Roy. San. Inst., Cert. Insp. of Meat.
- Health Visitor—Miss E. Cocking, C.M.B., (Jessops Hospital).
  - 3 years Hospital Training.
  - 6 months District Work Training.
- Matron of Infectious Diseases Hospital—Miss A. Neal, Registered Fever Nurse.
  - Experienced 10 years mental nursing.
- 2. Laboratory Facilities. Specimens for bacteriological and pathological report are forwarded to the City Laboratory, Nottingham, and specimens for chemical report to Sheffield. Samples of milk for bacteriological count and biological test for bacillus tuberculosis are forwarded to the Pathology Department of the Victoria Hospital, Worksop.

3. Ambulance Facilities. The Corporation maintain a modern ambulance, fully equipped, for the removal of infectious cases to Hospital.

Two Ambulances for the conveyance of non-infectious and accident cases are maintained by the Retford and District Ambulance Committee.

- 4. Nursing in the Home. There are two District Nurses available for home nursing. The nurses are under the control of the District Nursing Association. They take no part in the health services, or have anything to do with cases of confinements. This work in the Borough has been greatly appreciated especially by the helpless and those suffering from chronic diseases. The fact that the Association, within such a short period of its inception, found it necessary to appoint a second nurse, demonstrates the necessity for their services.
- (b) Infectious Diseases. Health visiting to cases of Tuberculosis is carried out under the control of the County Council. With regard to other notifiable diseases, very few of these cases are nursed at home, the majority being removed to the Isolation Hospital.

#### 5. Clinics and Treatment Centres.

- (a) The School Clinic, Chancery Lane, is open daily. The School Medical Officer attends on Mondays, Thursdays, and when necessary on Friday mornings. For full particulars see the report of the School Medical Officer for 1937.
- (b) The Tuberculosis Dispensary, which is held at the Out-Patient Department of the Retford and District Hospital, North Road, on Tuesday afternoons, is under the administration of the County Council.

#### (c) Child Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinic.

No. of sessions during 1937	44
No. of individual children attended Centre	25 750
No. of visits paid by children to Centre:-	
under 1 year2,573 1—5 years4,777	
Total	7,350
No. of visits paid by mothers to Centre	.5,562 326 70
Visits paid by Health Visitor to:	
Children under 1 year of age2,427 Children between 1—5 years of age1,403	
Total	3,830
Ante-natal cases	248

This Centre is administered by the Ladies Health Association, a voluntary organisation. The Centre is open from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, the Medical Officer attending on Thursdays.

The work at this Centre has increased very considerably during the last few years; three hundred more examinations were made than in 1936, and the attendances made by children was up by 1,435. In fact, the numbers now attending have reached dimensions which have taxed the accommodation of the Centre to its utmost, and the Committee have under consideration the question of new accommodation.

(d) Orthopaedic Treatment. At the end of 1936, there were two children on the Cripples' List. Since that date one case has left the Borough, and one new case has been added, so that at the present time, there are still two children on the Pre-School Cripples' List. 55 attendances were made at the Worksop Cripples' Guild Clinic for treatment.

(e) Supply of free milk to Necessitous Persons.

During the year free milk was distributed to 110 families, where there were 312 pre-school children requiring special nourishment and 26 expectant mothers. A total of 15,968 pints of milk was issued, and in addition 9 families were provided with "dried" milk. All applicants were seen by the Medical Officer, and recommended to the Child Welfare Committee before any issue was made.

#### (f) Services of trained Midwives for all confinements.

Prior to July 31st, midwives who accompanied Doctors when attending confinements were, in necessitous cases, subsidised to the extent of £1, but little advantage was taken of these arrangements. No grants were made during the year by the Council.

#### (g) Maternity beds for Complicated Cases.

The Council has made arrangements for the admission of cases where the homes are unsuitable to either the Jessops Hospital, Sheffield, Kilton Hill Hospital or the Victoria Hospital, Worksop. 2 such cases were admitted during 1937. Should a case require an urgent operation it would, of course, be transferred to the nearest Hospital.

## (h) Isolation and Separate Nursing of cases of Puerperal Sepsis.

These cases are transferred to the Norton Hospital, Sheffield; four cases were admitted during the year.

## (i) Services of a Consultant for Doctors needing Assistance in difficult and complicated cases.

J. E. Stacey, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.S., is the consultant for these services. During the year, 18 cases were referred for his opinion.

## (j) Dental treatment for mothers, and children under five years of age.

During 1937, 24 women and 3 children were recommended for dental treatment, the cost of which was £83/16/0. Of this sum, £46/14/0 was paid by mothers, and the balance was met by the Council or from the funds of the Ladies' Health Association.

#### (k) Special arrangements for pre-school children.

Defective Vision. Glasses are prescribed by the Medical Officer under the same arrangements as those which exist for School children. 4 cases were treated during the year.

**Ophthalmia in Infants.** Any such cases are kept under the supervision of the Health Visitor and the Medical Officer of Health, and should it be necessary, they can be transferred to Hospital for treatment.

Diseases of the Ear and Throat. Cases of ear disease are kept under supervision at the Child Welfare Centre, and may be treated either at the School Clinic or Hospital, and if necessary, they may be transferred for the opinion of a specialist. Cases of tonsillectomy are treated at the Retford and District Hospital, and 7 such cases were operated upon during the year.

6. Midwives. The Midwives Act came into operation for the County of Nottingham on August 1st, 1937. Under the terms of the Act the County Council have appointed four maternity nurses for the Retford area. These nurses bring all the expectant mothers, (other than those who are under the care of their own medical practitioners), by whom they are engaged to attend at confinements, to the Ante-Natal Clinic. By these arrangements, practically all the expectant mothers are medically examined and kept under medical supervision during pregnancy. Cases showing abnormalities or complications are referred for the opinion of a Consultant. The effect of this Act assures that mothers during the ante-natal and post-natal periods are under medical supervision, which results in complications being detected at an early date, and dealt with. The Maternity

Nurses work in close co-operation with our own Health Visitor, which results in a general improvement in the supervision of not only mothers during pregnancy and the post-natal period, but also there is better supervision of the infant population of the Borough.

The Maternity Nurses in the Borough are as follows :-

Nurse F. E. Hardy, (County Midwife) Welham Road.

Nurse E .A. Hardy, (County Midwife) Welham Road.

Nurse L. N. Pearson, (County Midwife) Victoria Road.

Nurse O. A. Scotney (County Midwife) Ollerton Road.

Nurse A. E. Noble (Private) Mount Vernon Nursing Home.

- 7. Children's Act, 1908. This Act is administered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. The Health Visitor has been appointed Infant Protection Visitor under Part I of the Act. Notifications of all children who are maintained "for reward" are received and registered, and the children are kept under supervision by the Health Visitor, and frequently, they attend the Child Welfare Centre, where they come under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. At the end of 1937, there was only one child on the register.
- 8. Legislation in Force. The following adoptive Acts are in force in the district:—

The Public Health (Amendment) Act 1890.

The Infectious Disease Prevention Act 1890.

The Public Health (Amendment Act) 1907, part 2 except sec. 23; part 3, secs. 34, 35, 37 and 43 to 51 inclusive; parts 4, 5, 6, 10.

The Public Health Act 1925, parts 2 (except secs. 21, 22 and 44), 3 and 4.

The Public Libraries Act (1882) 1923.

The Slaughter of Animals Act 1933.

The Baths and Wash-houses Act.

There are Bye-laws relating to the following:-

Slaughter Houses 1922.

Drainage of Existing Buildings, new Streets and Buildings 1925.

Coronation Playing Field, 1914.
Good Rule and Government, 1917.
Markets, 1923.
Nuisances, 1923.
Public Sanitary Conveniences, 1921.
Offensive Trades, 1924.
Employment of Children and Young Persons, 1922.
Common Lodging Houses, 1925.
Public Baths, 1921.
Hackney Carriages, 1926.

9. Recreation and Playing Fields. A new Park, which is situated off Chancery Lane, is now being laid out, and so far as can be seen, when complete, it will be attractive, and a great boon to the town.

Generally speaking, the town is definitely short of accommodation for recreation both for children and adults, especially younger children. The time has long since arrived when more energetic steps should be taken to provide small playing grounds adjacent to their homes, and suitably fitted out, so that they would attract the children from their own yards, and the street gutters, especially from the latter where their lives are continually in danger. In this country generally, the question of providing suitable and healthy recreation for children and young adults is not receiving the attention which its importance demands, and unless some attention is given to it, we cannot wonder if the percentage of young delinquents remains higher than is desirable.

## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

1. Water Supply. The water is obtained from two deep boreholes situated on the West side of the Borough. These bores extend to a depth of 650 feet, but are only tubed for 12 feet from the bottom of the well. The top of the tube being above the rest level of the water. The water bearing strata is met with at a depth of approximately 45 feet. Samples of the water have been submitted twice yearly for chemical analyses and monthly for bacteriological tests. Owing to some little deviation in the Coli count, bacteriological tests are now taken weekly.

The Chemical Report on the Water is as follows:—
Physical Characters.

Suspended matter Appearance of a column Taste	n 2 ft. long		none clear, colourless
Odon			normal
			none
Chemical Examination,			Parts per 100,000
Total Solids dried at	180° C		19.0
Chlorides in terms of	Chlorine		2.05
Equivalent to Sodium	Chloride		3.38
Nitrates			none
Nitrates as Nitrogen			0.28
Poisonous Metals (Lea	d etc.)		none
Total Hardness			14.4
Temporary Hardness			7.4
Permanent Hardness			7.0
Oxygen absorbed in 4	hours at	80° F	0.012
Ammoniacal Nitrogen			0.0002
Albuminoid Nitrogen			0.0012
pH Value			8.0
Free Chlorine			none

The Bacteriological Examination of both boreholes is as follows:—

	No. 1 Borenole.	No. 2 Borehole.
Temperature on arrival	9° C	17° C
Number of colonies per ml.		
developing on Agar in:-		
3 days at 20° C	4	9
48 hours at 37° C	. 0	2
Probable number of bacteria		
of the Coli Aerogenes Group		
present in 100 mls. of the		
Water	3	3
pH Value	. 8.0	8.0
Free Chlorine	none	none

Remarks. Borehole No. 1. Count satisfactory, but number of Aerogenes Organisms per 100 mls. somewhat higher than usual. Borehole No. 2. Count satisfactory, number of Coli Aerogenes Organisms rather higher than usual.

During the year the following extensions and renewals to water mains have been carried out:

New Mains laid during the year 1937.
Wellington Street extension, 32 yards of 4"
Vernon Avenue (off Grove Coach Road) 68 yards of 4"
West Grove Road (off Thrumpton Lane) 88 yards of 3"
Lidget Lane East, 180 yards of 4"
Devonshire Road extension, 104 yards of 6"
Renewals of Mains during the year 1937.
Darrel Road, 65 yards of 3"

In previous reports, attention has been drawn to building developments in the neighbourhood, and also to excavations being carried out by the Railway Company in close proximity to the Corporation's water supply. Steps which would appear to be adequate have already been taken with regard to the building developments, and the Corporation have purchased land on the West, North and East sides of the boreholes. On the South side the position is not so satisfactory, and at present it is receiving the Water Committee's consideration.

- 2. Rivers and Streams. The River Idle passes through the Town and is joined on the East by the Moorgate Beck and on the West by the Carr Dyke. There is very little pollution.
- 3. Drainage and Sewerage. The following new sections of sewer have been laid during the year:—

1262 lineal feet of 9" sewer, Lidget East Housing Estate 300 lineal feet of 9" sewer, Vernon Avenue, off Grove Coach Road.

186 lineal feet of 6" sewer along the grass verge on London Road.

230 lineal feet of 9" sewer, new road to Thrumpton Bungalows.

#### 4. Closet Accommodation.

No. of conversions to water closets		to	o. of clo convers stem rer or	ancy maining	No. of closets remaining on	No. of water closets on		
1938	1934	1935	1936	1937	31/1	2/37	31/12/37	31/12/37
					Pails	Others		
Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	*32	*18	12	4255
1411	1411						e to sewers.	

- 5. **Scavenging.** Scavenging is carried out by direct labour under the efficient supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.
- 6. **Sanitary Inspection.** The work would appear to be well supervised by the Inspector, and I am satisfied that it is being efficiently carried out.
- 7. **Smoke Abatement.** There has only been one serious complaint of a nuisance during the year, and this was from a paper manufactory which required a statutory notice to be served. The firm then installed a mechanical stoker and smoke consuming device which would appear to have abated this nuisance. The other chimney stacks of the works in the town, although closely supervised, did not show any encroachment on the Bye-laws.
- 8. Common Lodging Houses. There are two common lodging houses in the town and these are kept under supervision by the Sanitary Inspector. No cause for complaint arose.

- 9. Offensive Trades. The offensive trades in the town are those of a fellmonger, tanner, fish friers and rag and bone dealers. Notices were served on three occasions, where insanitary conditions were found, and although they have been closely supervised there have been no other causes for complaint.
- 10. **Slaughterhouses.** There are 9 registered and 6 licenced slaughterhouses in the town. As a rule, they are kept clean and in as sanitary a condition as the buildings permit. These slaughterhouses are scattered throughout the town and many are in congested areas and close to dwelling houses, which is neither hygienic or desirable.

None of these buildings in which slaughtering takes place come up to modern standards, and owing to their scattered nature the supervision of slaughtering is definitely difficult. The butchers in the town have given the Inspector material assistance. The Inspector has paid 1402 visits and altogether 24,047 lbs of meat have been condemned. This fact demonstrates the necessity for close supervision.

- 11. **Schools.** There has been a general improvement in the school buildings throughout the Borough in the past few years. A large modern school for senior boys has been erected, and another for senior girls is practically complete. One mixed school has been enlarged and practically re-built, and two other schools have been reconditioned and enlarged. Speaking generally, with the exception of two schools, the buildings and the general hygiene of all schools in the area are satisfactory.
- 12. Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928. All the rag flock used in the Borough is guaranteed to conform to the standards as laid down by the Act.
- 13. **Swimming Pools.** The town now possesses an up-to-date modern swimming bath with a continuous filtration plant. The standard of the water for bathing is quite satisfactory. The Baths are well managed and in all respects suitable.

14. Eradication of Bed Bugs. During the year 8 houses have been disinfected for the eradication of bed bugs, 5 of which were houses owned by the Corporation, and 3 houses belonged to private owners. All bedding from infested houses is removed to the steam disinfector and thoroughly steamed, the rooms are sprayed with Zaldecide, and then fumigated with disinfestators. In order to ensure that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses, the beds are examined and if found to be verminous they are steamed and then returned straight to the new houses. All bedsteads are also sprayed. The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority.

## Housing.

#### STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of	Dwelling-houses during the year—	
(1)[a] Total housin Acts)	number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housin	g 261
[b] Numb	er of inspections made for the purpose .	370
head 1	er of dwelling-houses (included under sub l above) which were inspected and recorde the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 192	d
[b] Numb	er of inspections made for the purpose	. 137
danger	f dwelling-houses found to be in a state strous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	r
to und	dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred er the preceding sub-head) found not to be espects reasonably fit for human habitation	0
2. Remedy of De of formal	fects during the year without service notice—	
consequ	f defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in uence of informal action by the Local ity or their Officers	1 l . 77
3. Action under S	Statutory Powers during the year—	
[a]Proceedings Act, 19	s under Sections 9, 10, and 16, of the Housing	
(1) Number notices	r of dwelling-houses in respect of which were served requiring repairs	
fit after	of dwelling-houses which were rendered service of formal notices:—	
	y Local Authority in default of owners	1 4

[b]	.Pro	ceedings under the Public Health Acts:-	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	25
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	0.4
		[i] By Owners [ii] By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
[c]	.Pro	ceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	27
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	90
[d]	.Pro	oceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
	(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
	(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
Но	usin	g Act, 1936—Overcrowding.	
[a]	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	36
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	39
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	255
[b]	Nun	nber of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	13
[c]	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	25
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	190
[d]	Par	ticulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
		Of the 36 cases of overcrowding now existing 18 are houses owned by the Corporation.	

### HOUSING.

In the year under review, 49 houses were officially represented as unfit for human habitation, which brings the total number represented up to 537. These houses have been dealt with as follows:—

Demolished	271
Demolition Orders made but houses not yet demolished	55
Undertakings given not to use the houses for human habitation	6
Closed under Section 20, Housing Act, 1930	2
Reconstructed	124
Schemes of reconstruction approved but not yet carried out	53
Yet to be dealt with	26

In addition to the 26 houses remaining from last year, there are 18 other houses in the Borough to be considered for reconstruction or demolition, and when these houses have been finally dealt with, the Corporation's scheme for slum clearance will be completed, apart from odd houses which may occur from time to time. There will be other houses requiring repairs under Section 9 of the Housing Act 1936.

The Corporation have now dealt with 537 houses and have erected 294 houses, and contracts have been signed for the erection of 36 houses, for the housing of dispossessed tenants and those who are overcrowded.

There has been again some delay in the completion of these houses, and at the present date, 8 houses which should have been completed by 31/12/37 are still awaiting completion. When these houses are completed it will still be necessary to erect houses to rehouse tenants from those on which Demolition Orders have been placed during the present year. The exact number is not at present ascertainable.

In considering the question of whether or not the houses reported upon as being unfit for human habitation, should be reconstructed, the following standards have been taken as a guide:—

- (a) Free from dampness.
- (b) Satisfactorily lighted and ventilated.
- (c) Adequately drained, and provided with the necessary out offices.
- (d) Provided with
  - (i) Glazed sink with water over, the sink to have a proper waste pipe discharging over a drain.
  - (ii) A larder ventilated into the open air.
  - (iii) A proper cooking range.
  - (iv) Adequate washing facilities.
  - (v) Approaches and yards to be properly paved and dry.
- (e) To be in a state of good general repair.

Where the owner could show that the houses were capable of being brought up to these standards and could be made reasonably healthy, no reconstruction scheme was refused, and in point of fact, the bulk of the houses on which it has been necessary to place Demolition Orders were due to the owners declining to reconstruct. The only cases in which Demolition Orders were placed on houses contrary to the wishes of the owner were when the sites were so congested that it was impossible to obtain an adequate amount of light and fresh air.

In addition to the houses erected by the Corporation, during the year, there were 54 houses built by private enterprise, a large proportion of which were suitable for the working classes.

In spite of this activity in the building trade, there is still an acute demand for houses for the working classes, especially for those with the lower rents, and at present there is a waiting list of 118 applicants for Council houses.

Overcrowding. At the end of 1937 there were 36 houses still shown as being overcrowded. The Housing Committee will probably have to extend their building programme in order to rehouse all these families. It is not anticipated that their present programme will be adequate.

General. The percentage of houses which have now been demolished is 8.35 and the percentage of houses reconstructed is 3.82, giving a total under both headings of 12.17 per cent. This means that a population of some 2,000 have been placed in new up-to-date houses or houses which have been reconstructed and rendered more healthy; and in addition 33 families have been removed from over-crowded houses.

The effect of this re-housing is that over 12 per cent. of the population, who formerly lived under conditions which were, to put it mildly, not conducive to health, are now placed in comfortable and healthy homes. The time which has elapsed since these changes have taken place has not been sufficiently long to enable a correct estimate of the improvement in health to be fully arrived at, but so far as can be seen, the change has been for the betterment of these people.

Seven years ago, rickets were generally prevalent amongst the children of the town, and the average child leaving the elementary schools was undersized and under weight. At present, a case of rickets is rarely seen, and the average weight of children leaving School is 10 pounds heavier than in 1930. I think we may to some extent attribute these improvements to re-housing.

There is little doubt that the conditions which existed in this Borough prior to the Housing Acts being put into operation were definitely detrimental to the general health of those who occupied the old type of house, and how these conditions could have been allowed to exist for so long is difficult to understand. Where houses were so packed in yards and alleys that they averaged 40 or 50 or more to the acre, and where these were so shut in that many houses depended for the greater part of the year on artificial lighting and where all amenities were lacking, it is not surprising that the health of the occupants fell far below normal, and that they both degenerated morally and physically. The worst conditions that I personally met with were in one street where there were 27 children, and a survey of their health was as follows:—

#### 11 suffered from rickets,

9 suffered from Tuberculosis of one form or another and the remaining 7 were under treatment for various causes such as anaemia and debility. This is a record which could not be surpassed in the worse slums of a large city. However, it is gratifying to know that these conditions have now been removed, and it is hoped that they will never be allowed to return.

In passing, there is only one criticism which can be levelled at Sanitary Authorities' activities in re-housing, and that is the type of the new houses. While conforming to modern requirements from a health point of view, they are not from an architectural everything that is desirable. A little more attention to the type of the brick used, and to their general lay-out and construction would give more satisfaction to the public in general.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk. There are 26 registered retailers and 24 producers of milk in the Borough. All herds were inspected quarterly, twice by the Borough Veterinary Officer, and twice by the County Veterinary staff. On all the occasions when inspections were carried out, herd samples of milk were taken for biological tests for Tuberculosis, a total of 19 samples were submitted of which 3 were positive for bacillus tuberculosis.

During the year, 7 animals were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925. This is a slight reduction on the number for the previous year. In addition to the samples of milk for biological tests, 20 samples were examined by the methlyene blue test, 18 of which were shown as satisfactory and 2 as unsatisfactory. This low figure for unsatisfactory results is gratifying as it points to the fact that cleanliness in milk production is receiving more care.

The sheds and dairies are, as a rule, maintained in a satisfactory manner, but at the same time, many of the sheds are of old construction, and as previously pointed out, the animals have not an adequate supply of fresh air and lighting, and the question of their reconstruction must soon come up for consideration.

In accordance with the Agriculture Act, 1937, the responsibilities of the veterinary inspection of milking cows now pass from under the control of the local authorities and the County Council, to that of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Minister has been approached with regard to the continuation of the quarterly inspections of the animals in the Borough, and his assurance has been received that one of the Ministry's Inspectors will carry out inspections quarterly as hithertofore, but whether or not herd sampling tests for bacillus

tuberculosis will be continued is not at present clear. Should the Ministry not continue this practice, it will be necessary for the local authority to take steps to have this sampling carried out, as in my opinion, it is absolutely essential.

In accordance with the terms of the Act, the services of the Veterinary Surgeon to the Borough, Mr. Richard Hudson, pass from under the Corporation's control, and he ceases to assist the public health staff. I therefore, take this opportunity to place on record my appreciation of Mr. Hudson's work during the eight years I have been associated with him, and I would like to thank him for his invariable courtesy and help.

The following is the report of the Veterinary Surgeon:

"I beg to report that I have inspected the dairy herds in the Borough twice during the year 1937.

During my first inspection, two special samples were taken and both proved negative. Six mixed herd samples were sent for biological examination and all were returned negative.

During my second inspection two special samples were taken and both proved negative. Five mixed herd samples were taken and two came back positive. Investigation of the infected herds was carried out by the County Veterinary Officer.

No cases of Mastitis or other disease contaminating the milk supply were found."

(Signed) RICHARD HUDSON, F.R.C.V.S.

Meat and other Foods. These items are dealt with fully in the Sanitary Inspector's report. See page 43.

Adulteration. The Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1928, is carried out by the County Council—see the embodied Food Inspector's Report, on page 28.

**Nutrition.** It is exceptional to find evidence of malnutrition amongst any of the inhabitants of the Borough which could be traced to lack of food. There are, of course, many cases, especially amongst children, of malnutrition which is directly due to wrong feeding. Frequently too little of the family income is expended on protective foods such as milk, eggs, fresh vegetables, fat fish i.e. mackeral and herrings, etc., and butter; the tendency being to rely on tinned and prepared foods which are not the equivalent of fresh.

The Corporation through their Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Committees have materially assisted the more necessitous families in obtaining milk. As will be seen by the report on the activities of the Child Welfare Committee, 110 families were given 15,968 pints of milk at a cost of £218/13/4., and the Education Committee helped 132 school children during the year.

**Shellfish.** There are no shellfish layings or beds in the district. The only shellfish which are marketed are Oysters Mussels and Cockles, which come respectively from Whitstable, Boston and Cleethorpes.

## Summary of Samples taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, in the Borough of East Retford, for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

Articles pu Inspectors fo and		ninati			Correct	Incorrect	Genuine	Adulterated
Baking Powder				1			1	
Brawn	•••			1			1	
Butter	•••			1			1	
Cheese				2			2	
Cocoa				2			2	•••
Coffee				1			1	
Epsom Salts				1			1	
Gin				2	2			
Ground Ginger				1			1	
Ground Almonds				1			1	
Lemon Curd				1			1	
Lard				1			1	
Mincemeat				1			1	
Margarine				3			3	
Marmalade				1			1	
Plum Pudding				1			1	
Milk, Condensed				3			3	
Olive Oil				2			2	
Pepper				1			1	
Rice				2			2	
Rum				1	1			
Sausage				2			2	
Shredded Suet				1			1	
Tincture of Iodine	e			1			1	
Vinegar				1			1	
Tea				1			1	
Vinegar, Malt				1			1	
Tincture of Rhub	arb			1			1	
Whisky				3	3			
Milk-Samples ta			1026	14	12	2		
(Special Designa	(tion) C	ruer,	1900	14	12	- 4		
	TOT	ALS		55	18	2	35	

## Number of Informal Samples of Milk tested by the Inspectors by "Gerber" Tester.

	Result		
		Correct	Incorrect
No. of Samples taken by the Inspectors No. of Samples taken at Farms Submitted by Milk Vendors to the Inspectors	243	243	Nil Nil Nil
	243	243	Nil

## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

Smallpox. No cases occurred during the year.

Scarlet Fever. There were 34 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year with no deaths. 9 cases were reported from the South Ward, 4 from the East Ward and 21 from the West Ward. 24 cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, Retford, 7 cases to the Isolation Hospital at Doncaster, and 3 cases were nursed at home. The majority of the cases were of a mild type.

**Diphtheria.** At the close of the year 1936, Diphtheria was prevalent in the Borough, 67 cases having occurred with 4 deaths. During the first six months of the year 1937, 57 further cases occurred with 4 deaths, the disease being most prevalent in the month of April.

The more severe cases were admitted in the months of January and February, and the same type of organism as described in my last report, persisted.

Those cases which died came late under medical supervision, and all showed the same symptoms as recorded in my previous report.

In the month of May, steps were taken to immunise the child population of the Borough, and although parents were fully circularised and the advantages of immunisation was fully explained, the response was very poor, only 153 children were immunised.

Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules were used for immunisation 3 doses of 1 c.c. each at weekly intervals were given and there was no reaction, or any other inconvenience from the process.

Pneumonia. There were 50 cases of Pneumonia with 18 deaths reported as compared with 38 cases and 7 deaths in the previous year. The incidence of the disease was highest in the months of January, March and September.

Erysipelas. There were 6 cases notified.

**Tuberculosis.** 19 cases of Pulmonary and 4 cases of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred as compared with 14 and 7 respectively in the previous year. There were 4 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 2 from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The incidence of the disease in the Borough would appear to be average.

Under the Public Health Regulations, 1925, any person found to be suffering from Tuberculosis engaged in any way with the milk trade, has been excluded from taking part in either the collection or distribution of milk, or in any other connection with the trade.

There were no non-notified Tuberculosis deaths during the year.

So far as can be ascertained all cases of Tuberculosis in the area have been notified, and there have been no cases of neglect or refusal to notify.

**Influenza.** From what information there is available, it would appear that the incidence of the disease was low. There were only 9 deaths.

Prevention of Blindness. All diseases of the eye in infants have been kept under observation at the Child Welfare Centre. There was only one case of Ophthalmia reported during the year, and no cases required the attention of the Consultant Ophthalmologist. During the school life of children, all diseases including refraction are under the direct supervision of the School Medical Officer, and serious or complicated cases are referred for the opinion of a

Consultant. There were 15 cases in which the Consultant's advice was asked for during 1937. All children above school age whose eyes required special attention were encouraged to attend the Clinic for further advice.

In the cases of eye trouble occurring, of a serious nature, amongst the patients in the Isolation Hospital, the services of an Opthalmic Surgeon are available. No cases occurred during the year. Diseases of specific origin are referred to the Centre at Mansfield for treatment.

Special arrangements have been made for the workmen belonging to the Corporation for the prevention of accidents to the eyes. Also records of cases of blindness are maintained.

General. Throughout the year steps were taken to bring to the notice of the inhabitants the various public services available for the treatment and prevention of disease. Printed notices were distributed amongst the mothers attending the Clinics, and other notices were forwarded through the children attending the elementary schools, also posters were placed in suitable positions throughout the Borough.

Instructions have been given at the Welfare Centre and School Clinic to parents, and addresses in the town were also given, so that all reasonable efforts have been made to arouse public interest in the prevention of ill health.



# NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

STATISTICAL TABLES

1937



NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES notified during the year 1937.

					_	_			_		
ied	West	21	7	19	00	:	00	·	12	5	89
Total Notified	al Notifi East Ward		32	19	:	-	-	. :	9	-	64
Tot	South	6	18	12	8	:	3	:	-	-	47
	Total Deaths		4	18	:	:	:	-	4	2	29
Admitted	to	24 (a) 7 (b)	55 (a)	::	:	:	4 (c)		10 (d) 4 (e) 1 (f)		105
	Total Notified	34	57	50	9	1	7	-	19	4	179
		:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
		:	:	:	::	m	:	si	si	sulosis	Totals
	Disease	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Acute Polio-Encephalitis	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	

(d) Ransom Sanatorium, Rainworth. (a) Arlington House Isolation Hospital, Retford.

<sup>(</sup>b) Doncaster Isolation Hospital.

<sup>(</sup>c) Jessops Hospital, Sheffield.

<sup>(</sup>e) Kilton Hill Sanatorium, Worksop.

(f) Notts. County Mental Hospital,
Radcliffe-on-Trent.

# Table showing Infectious Diseases notified month by month during 1937.

	_
22 14 22 22 14 12 14 10 11 13	179
:-::-:::6:::	4
8-8-848:	19
1111-111111	-
-  -  -    0	7
i- : : : : : : : : :	-
- 16 1 1 1 - 1 16 1	9
0.4000400000	90
127 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	57
- :00 :0000	34
	:
January February March April June July August September October November December	Totals
	1       9       9       1         2       1       1       1         1       1       1       1         1       1       1       1         1       1       1       1         1       3       4       1         2       1       3       4         3       1       1       4         6       1       6       1         6       1       1       1         6       1       1       1         6       1       2       1         6       1       2       1         6       1       2       1

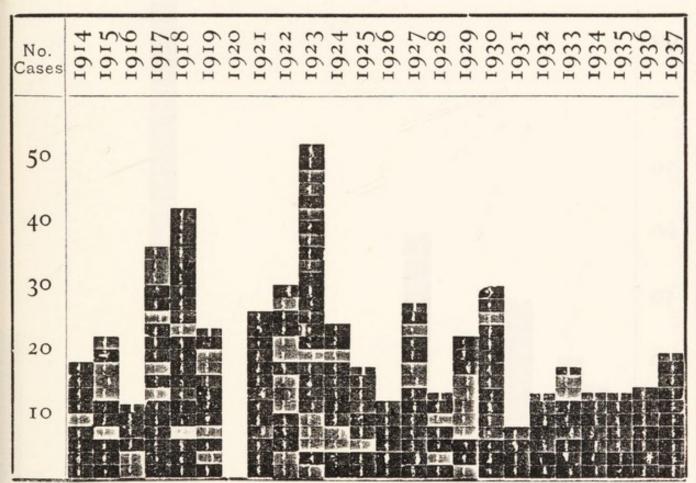
#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

notified during the year 1937.

				_	-	_		_	_			
		65 and	:	:	=-	•	:	:	:	-	:	13
	years.	999₽		:	- ∞		:	:	:	4	1	14
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strict.		0281	2	2	:-	•	:	:	:	5	:	10
hole di		ð101	4	16	2 -		:	:	:	က	:	26
Cases notified in whole district	all ages-in	013	17	30	9-		:	:	:	-	-	56
notifie	Ata	g₽	က	4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	7
Cases		₽8	. 00			:	:	:	:	:	1	9
		82	-	5	- :		:	:	:	:	:	4
		21	-	: '	4		:	:	:	:	:	2
		IaebnU	:	:	, מ		-	:	:	:	:	10
	sə	At all ag	34	57	900		1	1	-	19	4	179
	Notifiable	Diseases	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Ervsipelas	et	Neonatorum	Fuerperal Pyrexia	Encephalitis	Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Totals

#### PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

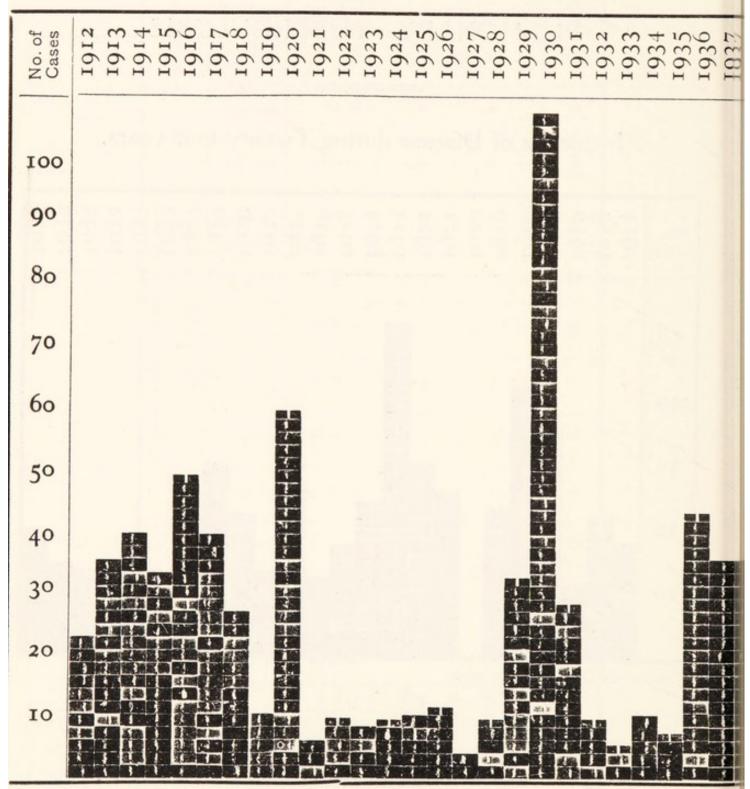
Incidence of Disease during Twenty-four years.



Scale-24 Cases to the inch.

#### SCARLET FEVER.

Incidence of Disease during Twenty-six years.



Scale-24 Cases to the inch.

DIPHTHERIA.

Incidence of Disease during Twelve years.

No. of Cases	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
100	45	13	6	0	2	33	5	5	2	6	67	57
80												
60												
	\											
40						$\bigcap$						
20						/ \						
			/					\	/			

Scale-24 Cases to the inch.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

1937.

		New	Cases		Deaths			
Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonar	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1					-			
1 0								•••
0 0		•••						
0 1		•••	1					
1 6								
F 10	1	•••		1				•••
10 10	2	1		1				
15 00	1	4				1		
00 00	2	1				1		1
00 40		2			1			1
	2	2	1				1	•••
4565 65 and over	1		1		1	1	1	•••
65 and over	1	***			1			
Totals	9	10	2	2	2	2	1	1

#### Borough of East Retford.

### REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1937.

To the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of East Retford.

Sir.

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my report upon the work done during the year 1937.

68 complaints were received and investigated, nuisances being found to exist in all but two cases.

127 informal notices asking for the abatement of nuisances were served during the year, and in only 14 cases was it found necessary to serve statutory notices in order to enforce the abatement of the nuisance. No legal proceedings were instituted as the statutory notices were all obeyed.

The number of defects which were remedied was 577, which is more than double the number remedied in 1936. This large increase was due to the fact that many schemes of reconstruction were completed in respect of houses which had been represented as unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.

The great majority of house owners now realize that their houses must be kept up to a proper standard of repair, and I have been asked by owners to advise them regarding the repair of houses when no notice asking for repairs had been served. There is still a shortage of low-rented houses in the Borough. The tenant who is prepared to pay upwards of ten shillings a week for rent is able to have his pick of houses but this rent is more than the unskilled labourer can afford to pay. I shall be glad to see a surplus of small houses in the town as this will enable the families to choose a house suitable to their needs whilst economic circumstances will force the owner to keep his cottages in repair in order to attract tenants.

I am sorry to have to report the existence of 36 cases of overcrowding of which 18 are houses owned by the Corporation. 255 people are living in these 36 houses and it has not been possible to re-house them owing to the delay in getting the new houses ready for occupation. 25 cases of overcrowding were relieved during the year mostly by re-arrangement of tenants in Corporation houses and partly by tenants finding suitable houses for themselves. I hope that overcrowding will be permanently abolished by the end of 1938. The Corporation are building some extra large houses for the accommodation of very large families as it is found that the income of the parent with six or more children rarely enables him to rent a privately owned house large enough for his needs.

In last year's report I hoped that 1937 would see the completion of the clearance of the unfit houses in Retford but my hopes have not been realized. Great progress was made and by the end of the year 271 houses had actually been demolished. The re-housing of tenants from the old houses has always lagged considerably behind the making of demolition orders and this has again been the case in 1937.

I am anxious to finish this section of the work so that we may proceed more rapidly with the work under the Housing Consolidation Regulations of 1925. Under this scheme we shall inspect all the houses in certain selected areas and all houses which need repair or alteration will be brought up to a definite standard. This will mean that all houses in the town will be dealt with gradually and the housing of the people will be on a much more satisfactory standard.

Meat Inspection. This very important work has again absorbed a large proportion of my time. Efforts are made to visit all slaughterhouses immediately after slaughtering has taken place but this is difficult as there is only one inspector and fifteen slaughterhouses scattered throughout the town. The department does receive the co-operation of the meat traders, who are anxious that only sound meat shall appear in their shops, and I find this co-operation to be very valuable. During my holidays the department received the valuable assistance of the Notts. County Veterinary Department and the assistant inspector of the Rural area also gave great help to enable this work to be kept going.

Many visits to slaughterhouses have to be made either early morning or late at night especially in the summer time and during the year there was a total number of 1,402 visits to slaughterhouses. The work of meat inspection could be carried out more thoroughly and with less labour if we had a central slaughterhouse but I almost despair of this ever becoming a reality. The slaughtering of animals near to dwellinghouses is a barbarous practice as the noises made by the animals and the sound of the shooting must be most unpleasant to some of the women who live in the neighbourhood.

The total amount of meat condemned as unfit for human food was 24,047 lbs and a more detailed list of this will be found later in the report. The great bulk of this was considered to be unfit for food owing to the animals being affected with tuberculosis which is a scourge amongst cattle and pigs. The attention of the Notts. County Veterinary Department was drawn to the carcase of a cow found to be badly affected with tuberculosis of the udder.

No serious infringements of the law relating to the meat trade was discovered during the year.

Other Food Inspection. Visits are made to shops, stalls, and other premises where food is manufactured or sold, and only a few complaints had to be made. A small amount of fish, tinned fruits and meats, and fruit had to be condemned as unsound but in no case was the unsound material being offered for sale.

Milk. During the year under review 101 visits were paid to dairies and cowsheds in the town. The number of purveyors shews an increase of two whilst the number of cowkeepers was stationary. Many of the purveyors have no dairy in the town as they either operate from the rural area or sell milk in sealed containers in shops.

In seven cases it was necessary to draw the attention of the trader to practices or conditions not in accordance with the law and these were all remedied. 20 samples of milk were examined by the methylene blue test and 18 were satisfactory and two unsatisfactory. In addition the milk of the accredited producers is tested regularly by the officers of the County Council.

Pasteurised milk is on sale in the town and one producer retailer sells guaranteed tubercular free milk. There is also a considerable quantity of milk produced by accredited cowkeepers sold in Retford but it should be clearly understood by the public that this milk is not guaranteed tubercular free.

It is still permissible for milk to be sold in the streets from open cans and churns, but the bulk of Retford's milk is delivered in sealed containers.

Infectious Disease. We have not had a good year in regard to infectious disease and diphtheria and scarlet fever have caused some trouble. The diphtheria epidemic which broke out in 1936 was not cleared up until some months of 1937 had elapsed. 217 visits were paid by me to houses in connection with infectious disease and in all cases the houses and bedding were disinfected immediately on removal of the patient.

During the year 1,188 articles were disinfected with steam at the disinfector. All the schools were disinfected twice, once in the summer holidays and once at Christmas.

Common Lodging Houses. There are two common lodging houses in the Borough which provide accommodation for 77 persons. This accommodation greatly exceeds the demand and there is no possibility of overcrowding. The houses are inspected from time to time and are found to be well kept.

**Canal Boats.** No contraventions of the regulations were discovered during the year. There are just a few boats which regularly ply up and down the canal but they are not used as family residences. The usual crew is a man and a youth and the boats usually trade between Misterton and Worksop with cargoes of wheat and coal.

**Petroleum Storage.** These stores are licensed by the local authority and the total amount of oil which could be stored in Retford is 109,250 gallons. Almost the whole is stored in underground tanks and apart from the possibility of damage by bombing in a war the risk of fire in a petrol store is almost nil.

A special condition of all the licences is that during the process of filling of a tank the pipeline must be securely screwed to the tank.

**Shops Act.** Visits are made to inspect the sanitary conveniences and washing arrangements &c. at shops in the town. During 1937 one serious contravention of the regulations was discovered which was rectified immediately when the owner of the shop was notified of the contravention.

Cleansing. This important work was carried on throughout the year without mishap. The total number of loads of house refuse collected and disposed of was 4,106 loads. We have now three carts of the pneumatic wheeled, sliding steel covered type and the drop in the number of loads is caused by the fact that these carts hold more refuse. The average load is about 24 cwts. All the refuse is disposed of by tipping on low lying ground and covering up with about two feet of soil. It is interesting to note that the town are at present laying out a park and playground on a site which was converted from marsh land to a good dry site by tipping house refuse some years ago. The total cost of collecting and disposing of house refuse was £1765/16/7 and the cost per 1,000 inhabitants was £117/14/5. The cost per 1,000 inhabitants last year was £121/11/0.

The tips in present use are situated as follows:—Bolham Lane, Darrel Road, Goosemoor Lane, and Hallcroft Road. These tips are all in different parts of the town which is a very great economy in carting. Owing to the dry winter we have had no flooding troubles at any of our tips. It is not possible to cover the refuse in three days as advised by the Ministry but it is covered as rapidly as is possible and with a depth of soil never less than 18 inches.

The street cleansing has been carried out on the usual plan of each man having his own particular beat. The great advantages of this scheme are that we can arrange for all the main streets to be swept early in the morning and also we have the best possible check on the work of each individual man.

The refuse is deposited in certain arranged places and is then collected by a cart and taken to the tips. The gullies on the main roads are emptied by the County Council and we also receive some assistance in man-power from the County Council.

Traders are allowed to deposit their putrescible refuse at our main depot and this is then removed to the tips with the road sweepings. No charge is made for this service which is much appreciated by fishmongers and fruiterers.

I should like to thank all the members of the Health Department who have rendered such great help during the year and especially during my illness. I have also had the benefit of the assistance of Mr. A. Walker of the Notts. County Council Veterinary staff who has always been willing to advise if asked to do so.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

FRANK R. SMITH,

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

### Meat and other Foods condemned in 1937.

Class of Foodstuff.	Condition.	Weight.
24 whole carcases of beef	Generalised Tuberculosis	12 694 lbs
Whole carcase of beef	Johne's Disease	
2 whole carcases	Septicaemia	,,
1 whole carcase	Septic Pericarditis	490 ,,
1 whole carcase	Emaciated	320 ,,
8 part carcases of beef	Tuberculosis	
1 part of carcase of beef	Bruising	***
2 whole carcases of veal	Generalised Tuberculosis	
2 whole carcases of veal	Immaturity	
Whole carcase of veal	Chill and Odourous	
1 whole carcase of pork	Generalised Tuberculosis	
1 whole carcase of pork	Septic Pleurisy	75 ,,
1 whole carcase of pork	Jaundice	76 ,,
1 whole carcase of pork	Dropsy	65 "
1 part of carcase of pork	Tuberculosis	6 ,,
3 whole carcases of mutton	Hydraemia	128 ,,
1 whole carcase of mutton	Asphyxiation	65 ,,
1 part of carcase of mutton	Mammitis	24 ,,
Beasts heads 92	5 tins of baked beans	
Beasts lungs 100	3 tins of pressed beef	
Beasts udders 29	1 bottle of piccalilli	VIII
Beasts livers 82	Pigs plucks	67
Beasts hearts 41	Pigs lungs	4
Beasts kidneys 88	Pigs kidneys	8
Sheeps livers 7	Pigs hearts	4
Sheeps lungs 4	Sheeps heads	4
Pigs heads 52	Sheeps hearts	4
	Sheeps kidneys	8

23 tins of fruit

2 tins of herrings

5 tins of salmon

310 lemons

57 lbs. of whelks

## Summary of Visits, 1937.

To Slaughterhouses		***	 1402
To Shops and Stalls, re Food Insp	pection		 269
To Properties, re Nuisances			 181
To Properties under Notice	***		 685
To Dairies and Cowsheds			 101
To Factories and Workshops			 21
To Bakehouses			 20
To Petrol and Carbide Stores			 9
To Premises, re Infectious Disea	ases		 217
To Offensive Trades			 20
To Premises under the Housing	Act		 229
To Premises, re Rats			 26
To Interviews with Owners, etc.			 119
Housing Act, 1936			 20
Shops Act			 19
To Miscellaneous Visits			 254
		T 1	0.500
		Total	 3592

		Taken off register		No. at end of 1937
Milk Purveyors	26	1	3	28
Cow Keepers	24	1-1-11	_	24

## Summary of Nuisances dealt with, 1937.

Foul of Defective Drains and Closet	S		25
Defective Roofs, Spouting, and Dar			108
Defective Yard Paving			
Houses Without Ashes Accommodat			48
Houses Without Sinks	ion		37
			39
Houses Dirty or Verminous			8
Overcrowded Houses now abated			26
Houses Badly Ventilated			19
Defective House Floors			74
Nuisances from Manure or Animals			1
Nuisances from Smoke			
Houses with Improper or No Larde	***		1
New Coalbanasa Promitat	:rs	***	22
			19
New W.C.'s provided			30
New Washhouses Provided			8
Defective Fire Grates			40
Defective Windows			47
Accumulation of Refuse			3
Miscellaneous			
			22
	Total		577

# Contraventions of Bye-laws, Orders, etc.

Slaughterhouses and Food Sto			 10
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milks	hops		 7
Bakehouses	***	***	 -
Factories and Workshops			 3
Common Lodging Houses			 2
Offensive Trades			 2
		Total	 24

### Annual Report

of the

### Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1937, for the

### Borough of East Retford in the County of Nottinghamshire

on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

### Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

### Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances.

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
FACTORIES [including Factory Laundries]	23	1	
WORKSHOPS [including Workshop Laundries]	18	2	
WORKPLACES [other than Outworkers' Premises]	**************************************		
Total	41	3	

# 2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

	No	of De	efects	ich ich
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M.	No. of offences in respect to which prosecutions
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts*				
Want of Cleanliness Want of Ventilation Overcrowding Want of Drainage of Floors Other Nuisances Sanitary accommodation  insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes	2   1 	2 1		
Offences under the Factory & Workshop Acts—  Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouse [s. 101]  Other Offences  [excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health [Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers] Order, 1921]	:::			
Total	3	3		

<sup>\*</sup> Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7, and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

