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FOLESHILL

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL


HEALTH

REPORT,

BY

JOHN ORTON, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



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TWENTY-EIGHTH
**Annual . . .
Report**

AS TO THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

FOLESHILL RURAL DISTRICT,

For the Year ending December, 1903.

BY

**JOHN ORTON, M.D., B.Ch., B'ham, D.P.H.,
Edin.,**

*Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers
of Health, and of the Royal Institute of Public
Health ; Member of the Royal College of Surgeons
of England, and Licentiate of the Royal College of
Physicians of London.*

TO THE FOLESHILL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN.

I beg to submit the Twenty-Eighth Annual Report—the first that I have presented—as prescribed by the Local Government Board, on the health of your district during the past year, together with the vital statistics.

The Population, estimated to middle of year, 17,838.

The Birth Rate is 37·1 per 1,000.

Average for previous 10 years 35·8 per 1,000.

Births in Foleshill Sub-District, comprising the Parishes of Bedworth, Exhall, Foleshill, and Keresley, 569 ; in 1902 there were 558.

In Walsgrave-upon-Sowe Sub-Districts, comprising the Parishes of Ansty, Binley, Shilton, Stoke, Walsgrave, Willenhall, Withybrook, and Wyken, 93 ; in 1902, 88.

A total increase of 16.

This Birth Rate is the highest of any year since the annexation of the southern end of the Parish of Foleshill.

The average number of persons per house is 4·5.

The Death Rate is 14·2 per 1,000.

Average for previous 10 years, 17·7 per 1,000.

The Death Rate from Phthisis is ·8 per 1,000.

The Death Rate of Infant Mortality, calculated per 1,000 Births registered, is 134·4, a very high one, although in 1902 it was even higher, viz., 159·4. This high rate of 134·4 is mainly owing to the large number of deaths attributed to premature birth, and these chiefly in Bedworth (11 out of 19).

The Zymotic Disease Death Rate, commuted from the seven principal zymotic diseases, is 1·4. The deaths from the seven diseases were as follows :—

Smallpox	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	0
Diphtheria	...	...	8
Typhoid Fever...	...	...	0
Measles	...	...	8
Whooping Cough	...	...	2
Diarrhoea	...	...	7

Total ... 26

The number of diseases notified during the year is 200, which shews a decrease on 1902, when the number was 250. The number in 1903 is made up as below :—

Smallpox	...	...	36
Diphtheria and	}	...	49
Membranous Croup		...	
Erysipelas	...	...	7
Scarlet Fever	...	...	28
Enteric Fever	...	...	8
Continued Fever	...	...	2
Chickenpox	...	...	70

Smallpox.

Of this disease, out of the 36 cases reported, 19 were from Bedworth, 13 from Foleshill, and 2 each from Exhall and Walsgrave.

The first case that occurred in the district was that of a man employed as a labourer at the New Gas Works being erected by Coventry, at Rowley's Green, Foleshill. This was in April, and he was removed to the Temporary Smallpox Hospital at Exhall. On enquiry, it was deemed probable that he had contracted the disease at his work, as tramping labourers were constantly being set to work at the Gas Works, who would work for a day or two and then tramp on again. The man was lodging at an Inn at Longford, and difficulty was experienced in dealing with the adequate disinfection of the premises. Our second case was another man at Longford, a miner, who was a frequenter of public houses where the gas labourers visited, and he had thus, I considered, contracted the disease from the same source as the first case, viz., from some journeyman labourer employed at the Gas Works, who had had the disease in a mild, unrecognised form. Our third case was that of a woman at Rowley's Green, at whose house some of the gas labourers had lodged, and I personally visited and carefully inspected all the employees at the Gas Works, to see if any suspicious person was at work there. I failed, however, to discover any such, and I afterwards concluded that the labourer who had conveyed the infection to our district had passed on ; and, shortly after this date, I became aware of the fact that an epidemic had been started in Warrington, Lancashire, by a man who had journeyed from Foleshill, and who had been lodging at the house of our third case. Our succeeding four cases were the wife and children of the second case ; and our other cases were all occasioned by contact with the cases already recorded, with the exception of a man and his child at Walsgrave, the former, in my opinion, having probably contracted the disease from some fellow workman at the Brickworks where he was employed, the child contracting the disease from his father, and being removed to the Hospital fifteen days later. This batch of patients numbered fifteen in all, not including two suspects who were vaccinated and removed to the Hospital for observation, and the above constitutes what we may term the Foleshill Epidemic. It is worthy of note that, at the public house where the first case occurred, of six inmates, only one escaped contracting the disease, although that one was fellow lodger of the first patient, slept with him, and waited upon him during his illness before the disease was notified ; whilst the others hardly, if at all, entered his room ; the reason for the immunity enjoyed by

the one being undoubtedly due to the fact that, having been a soldier, he had been successfully revaccinated upon three occasions.

Our second epidemic occurred at Bedworth, in the month of June, just at the time when the last Foleshill case was about to be discharged from the Hospital; the first patient being a woman who had contracted the disease from her sister, a resident of Bedworth, who had had the disease in a very mild, unrecognised form, caught at her work in Coventry, and all the succeeding Bedworth cases were to be traced to this first one, the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th being relations, the next few immediate neighbours, and the remainder contacts of these.

The two Exhall cases were only ascertained in September, through information received from Birmingham, to which city a boy had gone from Exhall, and had shortly afterwards developed small-pox, which, being concealed, gave rise there to an extensive epidemic. Upon my visiting the house, I found there two children who had had the disease for about 6 weeks, and were scabbing. As our Hospital was closed, and the children would have recovered in the course of a few days, it was determined to thoroughly isolate every one in the house, upon the premises, until all danger of the infection had ceased. This was done, and no case of infection to anyone in the neighbourhood occurred. The compulsory notification of Chicken-pox led, in at least one case, directly to the detection of a case of Small-pox, which otherwise might have escaped our vigilance. The Medical Practitioners of the district were also requested, at the expense of the Sanitary Authority, to notify me, by telegram, of any suspicious case coming under their notice, and, in nearly every case that was removed to Hospital, I was enabled to see the patient before removal, and to share the responsibility of the notification. I also visited, at the request of Medical Men, several cases which, happily, did not prove to be Small-pox.

Only one case ended fatally—that of a child who had never been vaccinated. In several of the cases, Vaccination had been performed after the disease had been contracted, and, in all these, the symptoms were much mitigated.

During the Bedworth Epidemic, posters were printed and circulated by order of your Council, as follows:—"Parish of Bedworth.—Smallpox.—The Public are urgently requested to assist the District Council in preventing the spread of this Disease. If any Rash is noticed it should be at once reported to the resident Doctors or the Medical Officer of Health, Foleshill. Any attempt to conceal a case will, upon discovery, be very severely dealt with. People are also particularly requested to abstain from visiting infected houses until after disinfected.—JOHN ORTON, M.D., Medical Officer of Health. Foleshill, July, 1903."

Mr. Oswin has kindly made out for me the following return of the cost of recent Smallpox Outbreak :—

			£.	s.	d.
1 Rent	...	...	50	0	0
2 Wooden Shed	...	...	52	12	3
3 Furniture	...	...	24	11	6
4 Ironmongery	...	...	18	9	0
5 Clothing, Drapery, Bedding, &c.	...	...	64	4	0
6 Nursing	...	...	103	19	4
7 Wages to Workmen and Charwomen	..	..	54	0	0
8 Conveyance of Patients, Clothing, Food, &c..	...	...	33	3	0
9 Provisions	...	...	116	11	5
10 Miscellaneous Items	...	...	6	10	11
			£524	1	5
11 Cost of Re-Vaccinations	...	...	78	2	6
		Total	£602	3	11

Although the cost of Re-Vaccinations may seem large, it is amply justified by the terrible cost of an outbreak of Smallpox, as shewn above, and, except for the Re-Vaccinations, the Smallpox expense would have been, undoubtedly, more.

Measles.

This disease, although not a notifiable one, has produced a total number of Deaths amounting to eight, with the exception of Diphtheria, the greatest number of Deaths from any zymotic disease in our district during the year. The disease has been epidemic in Foleshill, Walsgrave, Withybrook, and Shilton, in all of which Parishes the Schools have been closed, by order of your Authority, during the prevalence of the disease in each locality, and with, I consider, satisfactory results, as there is no disease that is likely to benefit so much from this measure being carried into force ; Measles being most contagious when the children are thought to be only suffering from a cold, with eyes and nose running, and when, consequently, they are sent to school to mingle with their healthy fellows. The Deaths, as I have already mentioned in my Special Report to the Local Government Board, are, I believe, to be ascribed partly to the severe type of the disease, as it developed itself when visiting Foleshill, and partly to the inclement weather of this year's summer months,—June, July, and August, when the deaths all occurred—and all from Broncho-l'neumonia, which complication, no doubt, was rendered more common owing to the cold and damp. The mortality from Measles is also, to some extent, due to the indifference with which the disease is so often regarded by Parents, who, looking upon the disease as only a child's ailment, which every child suffers from, at one time or another, frequently neglect to call in a Medical Man, though, as a matter of fact, as compared to Scarlet Fever, the case mortality is higher than the latter disease. By order of your Council, posters for distribution have been printed, warning people of the dangers during Measles, and advising what precautions should be taken.

Erysipelas.

Seven cases of this disease came under my notice during the year, of which one case, that of a person advanced in years, proved fatal.

Epidemic Diarrhœa.

Seven deaths were recorded from this complaint, 6 under 1 year ; as compared with 2 in 1902, both under 1 year ; whilst, in 1900 and 1901, there were 10 deaths, six under 1 year, and 14 deaths, eleven under 1 year, respectively. The marked difference between the immediate past two years, and the two previous ones of 1900 and 1901, is accounted for by the wet and cold summers we have experienced during the last two years. During 1903, at no time did we have any continued period of hot and dry weather, and, although our improved water supply may have had some influence upon the evidence of the disease, still, as practically all the deaths recorded were amongst children, presumably milk fed, we must recognise the great factor which the meteorological conditions have played in the diminution of the deaths.

Chickenpox.

This disease was wisely made a notifiable one from 19th March, and remains in force until March, 1904, and, as I have previously stated, the notification led to a detection of Smallpox, which otherwise might have escaped observation. Seventy cases were notified,—30 from the Parish of Foleshill, 27 from Bedworth, 8 from Walsgrave, 2 each from Binley and Exhall, and one from Keresley. All cases were enquired into, especially those other than children.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

Forty ^{nine} ~~five~~ notifications were received of these diseases—^{three} ~~two~~ ^{from} ~~from~~ Bedworth, ^{three} ~~two~~ ^{from} ~~from~~ Exhall, twenty-two from Foleshill, and three from Walsgrave. Forty-three cases were reported the previous year. After the September quarter, the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Bostock Hill, wrote, asking me if I could assign any specific cause for the large number in the quarter, "a larger number than in any other district in the county." In reply, I could only state my opinion that our apparent special liability to Diphtheria probably lay in the fact that, owing to our bad sewerage and drainage in Bedworth and Foleshill, there was so much surface pollution, and that, from this cause, the number of cases was so great.

I have hope, however, that when our proposed Sewerage Schemes for these two parishes are carried out, the disease will shew substantial diminution.

Enteric Fever and Continued Fever.

Ten cases of these diseases were notified—eight of enteric, and two of continued—a further reduction from last year, when the number was 24, and, in 1901, 49.

Many causes have been in operation to bring about this very satisfactory result—foremost, probably, the wet season of this summer, which has kept down the incidence of Enteric Fever pretty uniformly throughout the whole country, and also our local conditions as regard our greatly improved water supply, viz., the Bedworth Public Supply, and the North Warwickshire Company's enterprise.

I have again to state my experience of the Bacteriological diagnosis of Enteric Fever being very unsatisfactory, and must emphasise the fact that a negative examination means little or nothing, and should certainly not be relied upon as against clinical symptoms of Enteric Fever.

Two cases were removed to the Infectious Hospital, and no death occurred—the type of disease being, in all cases except one, of the mild variety.

Puerperal Fever.

I am pleased to state that no notification of this disease was received during the year, whilst there were 2 in 1902, 4 in 1901, and 4 in 1900.

Tuberculosis.

Twenty-five deaths occurred from Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases, representing a total death rate of 1·2.

This number of deaths from Tuberculosis is too high, and should be certainly diminished in our rural district, now that our public sanitation is improving ; but one feels bound to insist on personal sanitation, such as windows that will open, and unstopped chimneys, being observed and encouraged. Fresh air is still only too much feared, especially in bedrooms.

Cancer.

Sixteen deaths were registered as caused by malignant disease : Six in Bedworth, 2 in Exhall, 7 in Foleshill, and 1 in Walsgrave-upon-Sowe. There were five deaths in 1902, and 18 in 1901.

Midwives' Act of 1902.

This Act came into operation this year, and will be administered in our district by the County Council, Section 8 of the Act making the County Council the local Supervising Authority over Midwives in the Administrative County, and requires the Council to give due notice of the effect of the Act, as far as practicable, to persons using the title of Midwife, as, after 1st of April, 1905, no woman may call herself a Midwife unless certified as the Act provides. Medical Practitioners have all been written to, in our district, by the Clerk to the County Council, for the names of any women whom they may know who practice as Midwives, with a view to getting all such registered and duly certified.

Whooping Cough.

During the past twelve months, this disease, so far as I could ascertain, has not visited the district to any great extent. Two deaths occurred, registered as being caused by Whooping Cough, both in the parish of Bedworth. In the previous year, 10 deaths occurred.

Scarlet Fever.

Twenty-eight cases were reported, whilst in 1902 there were 89, and in 1901 80 cases. Of the twenty-eight, twelve were from Bedworth, six from Foleshill, seven from Walsgrave, two from Withybrook, and one from Wyken.

Of these cases 11 were removed to the Foleshill Infectious Hospital, and no deaths occurred, either of those coming into Hospital, or of those remaining at home. The cases were practically all sporadic ones, and the disease at no time developed an epidemic character, the cases being spread over the whole twelve months. The type of disease, too, was of a uniform mild variety.

Tramps.

During the twelve months, 2,879 tramps were relieved—1,917 males, 750 females, and 212 children. Compared with 1902, this shews an increase of 576, and one of 1,225 on 1901, when the number relieved was 1,654. This seems an alarming increase, and tends to shew how much vagrancy is upon the upward tendency. During the earlier months of the year, the tramps were inspected every morning, as Smallpox was rife in the surrounding districts, and on one occasion a tramp who had left our workhouse was found, the following morning, to be suffering from Smallpox. Our Tramp Wards were accordingly disinfected.

Isolation Hospitals.

FOLESHILL.—During the year, thirteen patients have been moved into the Hospital—eleven Scarlet Fever, and two Enteric Fever. No cases have proved fatal. Miss Newbold, the Matron, having resigned her position in November, out of 56 applicants, Miss Smith was appointed, and has taken up her duties.

EXHALL.—The temporary Smallpox Hospital, Newland Hall, afforded us three small and one large rooms, which we used as Wards, the large kitchen and one small room serving for the administration and nursing quarters. As this proved insufficient, a wooden hut was erected in the grounds, constructed with double walls, the interspaces being packed with sawdust, the inside painted with asbestos paint, and the hut roofed with gas-tarred felt, and warmed by a coke stove.

We are greatly indebted to the Warneford Hospital for having kindly kept us supplied with Nurses, whose services, rendered amidst many obstacles and difficulties, gave every satisfaction.

Our Disinfector, being a portable one, was removed from Foleshill to Exhall, and placed in the grounds there during the time the Hospital was open.

During the second epidemic, I tried the effect of the Red Light treatment, pasting all the windows over with red tissue paper. The result I thought was satisfactory, as the pocks did not develop so much as when the cases were treated by ordinary light, and the eye complications were decidedly lessened.

At the height of the Smallpox Epidemic, the County Medical Officer of Health, upon visiting Foleshill, recommended that some assistance should be provided to help in the disinfection of the houses, bedding, clothing, &c., appertaining to the patients. Mr. Windass had, up to this time, coped with all the work, single handed. Your Council adopted this suggestion, and, for some 2 months, this plan was carried out.

Disinfection.

This work proved a very onerous one during the year, and taxed the time of Mr. Windass very severely during the early part of the Smallpox Epidemic especially. As before stated, the Steam Disinfector was taken to and from Newland Hall as occasion demanded. The number of articles passing through the Disinfector amounted to 1,942, of which the greater number were Smallpox articles, viz., 1,346. Many Smallpox articles, and portions of bedding, were destroyed, and the owners supplied with new, at the expense of the Sanitary Authority.

The houses of the Smallpox patients were disinfected by fumigation and spray, after the removal to Hospital of each patient ; and the Hospital Conveyance was disinfected by fumigation, on each occasion.

Common Lodging House.

Only one exists in your district, viz, in Nuneaton Road, in the Parish of Bedworth, and this has been frequently visited by myself and Mr. Windass, and we have found no cause for complaint. The lodging-house keeper was explicitly warned to report any case that he deemed at all suspicious of Smallpox, to me, immediately.

Offensive Trades.

In the whole district, there are but two offensive trades ; both are in the parish of Foleshill—one at Rowley's Green, the other at Bell Green. Of the former, no complaint has been received, and none this year of the Bell Green one, which I have myself personally inspected whilst at work, and I found no cause of complaint, either in regard to the premises or the apparatus, the situation being a good one, as it is well isolated from the road, and there are no adjacent habitations.

Factory and Workshops' Act, 1901.

Under the provisions of this Act, all districts are compelled to keep a register of all Workshops, including Bakehouses, and to enter particulars as to cubic capacity, to see that there is adequate ventilation, water supply, and closet accommodation, and that the premises are clean and the flooring in a good state of repair. Accompanied by Mr. Windass, I have visited nearly all the Bakehouses in the district, and have discovered one which we must term an underground one. This, after conferences with the owner and tenant, has now been made thoroughly satisfactory, and will, in accordance with the Act, receive the certificate from your Authority.

We have also visited the various Factories and Workshops in the district, which number in all 65. 81 visits have been paid, and the various defects which we found have all received attention, notices being served in each case upon the proprietors. Amongst the defects were bad flooring, defective closets and ashpits, and insufficient closet accommodation. In the laundries at Keresley, we found some of the ceilings in a very bad state of repair, caused by the steam.

The register, as prescribed by law, has been entered up by Mr. Windass, and all measurements and details duly chronicled therein ;

and the Act has increased the duties of his office to a great extent, as, besides the various visits, interviews with owners, and inspections which have to be made, there is necessarily a large amount of clerical work, the serving of the various notices being itself not a small labour.

Sanitary Prosecutions.

In addition to those stated by Mr. Windass, the father of the children at Exhall who were discovered to have Smallpox was summoned before the County Magistrates, and we secured a conviction against him, with the maximum penalty.

Water Supply.

This is still improving in the district, as a whole, it is satisfactory to record.

At Bedworth, the houses are more and more being supplied from the Public Mains, the supply being entirely satisfactory.

At Foleshill, the more populous parts of the Parish have the mains of the North Warwickshire Water Company laid on, and several localities which have urgently needed a wholesome supply have been connected during the past year.

The annexed portion of the Parish—the Great Heath district—has, a few months ago, been disconnected from the North Warwickshire Company's mains, which will leave a larger supply for the growing needs of our own district.

In Foleshill Parish, Little Bayton is still the part which needs a water supply the most ; also, Bedworth Hill and Blackhorse Lane, in Exhall.

Sewerage.

I attended an enquiry which was held, in December, by Mr. Fawcett, on behalf of the Local Government Board, to enquire into the Amended Scheme prepared by Mr. Lailey for the parish of Bedworth. The Scheme was fully gone into, and the area of the Scheme, especially the proposed site for the Works, personally viewed by the Inspector, accompanied by Dr. Bostock Hill, the County Medical Officer of Health, and myself. No result has as yet been made known. Mr. Lailey has also prepared a Scheme for the parish of Foleshill, with a site for the Sewage Works at Henley Green. I have visited the latter with Mr. Lailey, and the land seems in every way suitable for the purpose. An enquiry is to be held by the Local Government Board Inspector, this month.

The requirements of the other Parishes, being essentially rural ones, do not seem, at present to warrant any special Scheme being adopted, with the exception of the Bedworth Heath end of the parish of Exhall, which, it is desirable, should be included in the Scheme for the Parish of Bedworth.

Table I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1903 and Previous Years.
Name of District : FOLESHILL RURAL.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.													NETT DEATHS ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.		
		BIRTHS.		Under 1 Yr. of Age.				At all Ages.				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.*	Number	Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.	Number	Rate.*	Number	Rate.*	Number	Rate.*				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
1893.	19968	699	35.2	86	123	387	20.2	13	No Information.			No Information.	No Information.				
1894.	19968	672	33.6	108	160.7	366	18.3	12									
1895.	19968	708	35.4	105	148.3	384	19.2	29									
1896.	19968	747	37.4	98	131.1	331	16.5	12									
1897.	22880	787	34.3	116	147.3	405	17.7	10									
1898.	23955	903	37.6	146	161.6	416	17.3	26				No Information.	No Information.				
1899.	24655	897	36.3	136	151.6	431	17.4	28									
1900.	16791	583	34.7	87	149.2	299	17.8	17									
1901.	17002	621	36.5	70	112.7	291	17.1	17									
1902.	17447	646	37.0	103	159.4	283	16.2	11									
Averages for years 1893-1902.	20260.2	726.3	35.8	105.5	144.4	359.3	17.7	17.5									
1903.	17838	662	37.1	89	134.4	255	14.2	9	0	5	260	14.5					

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Institutions outside the District receiving Sick and Infirm persons from the District :—Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital ; Queen's Hospital, Birmingham. Other institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the district : Union Workhouse, and Smallpox Hospital (Exhall).

Table II.—Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1903 and previous years.
Name of District, FOLESHILL RURAL.

Names of Localities	1. Ansty.				2. Bedworth.				3. Binley.				4. Exhall.				5. Foleshill.				6. Keresley.			
	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.	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	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1893	127	2	4	—	5476	198	109	25	180	4	3	—	1004	46	23	3	8673	320	174	45	491	19	14	3
1894	127	3	6	—	5476	209	106	37	180	5	3	—	1004	35	16	6	8673	309	167	53	491	14	10	1
1895	127	4	2	—	5476	218	113	37	180	5	3	—	1004	35	10	2	8673	312	192	51	491	20	7	—
1896	127	4	2	—	5476	225	96	28	180	4	1	—	1004	41	22	8	8673	338	160	52	491	20	5	1
1897	127	7	5	1	6000	239	117	46	180	6	4	1	1004	47	22	5	11000	347	179	45	491	16	8	3
1898	127	6	1	1	6250	255	105	42	180	5	2	—	1020	34	14	3	11800	435	224	82	500	22	7	2
1899	127	5	1	—	6750	292	133	48	180	3	2	—	1020	43	17	5	11800	394	203	65	500	18	11	4
1900	127	1	3	1	6850	249	136	50	180	8	3	—	1020	37	20	5	5832	196	89	16	500	17	11	4
1901	155	4	2	—	7169	272	120	28	214	10	3	—	1089	37	19	8	5514	214	98	22	536	16	10	2
1902	155	5	3	1	7469	278	116	47	214	7	3	1	1114	53	22	12	5614	210	96	34	536	17	7	—
Averages of Years 1893 to 1902.	132.6	4.1	2.9	.4	6230.2	243.5	115.1	38.8	186.8	5.7	2.7	.3	1028.3	40.8	18.5	5.7	8625.2	30.75	158.2	46.5	502.7	17.9	9	2
1903	155	1	1	0	7617	288	103	45	214	8	1	1	1114	45	13	4	5843	217	85	24	536	19	9	4

TABLE II.—Name of District, FOLESHILL RURAL (Continued).

Names of Localities	7. Shilton.				8. Stoke.				9. Walsgrave-on-Sowe.				10. Willenhall.				11. Withybrook				12. Wyken.			
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.	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.
1893	350	11	12	2	1739	47	18	5	1456	42	22	2	105	4	—	—	234	5	5	1	133	1	3	—
1894	350	10	4	1	1739	37	27	6	1456	41	19	3	105	5	1	1	234	3	5	—	133	1	2	—
1895	350	4	7	1	1739	46	20	4	1456	53	20	6	105	2	1	—	234	5	8	3	133	4	1	1
1896	350	9	3	—	1739	49	21	3	1456	38	16	5	105	6	2	1	234	11	2	—	133	2	1	—
1897	350	6	1	—	1800	66	32	7	1456	41	32	8	105	2	—	—	234	9	4	—	133	1	1	—
1898	350	8	6	1	1800	68	28	8	1456	58	24	7	105	4	—	—	234	5	—	—	133	3	5	—
1899	350	8	2	—	2000	68	39	6	1460	56	20	7	105	3	1	—	234	7	1	—	133	—	1	—
1900	360	12	3	2	45	—	—	—	1460	53	26	9	105	2	2	—	234	6	6	—	133	2	—	—
1901	387	9	3	—	34	—	1	—	1462	49	27	8	111	2	2	1	207	7	3	1	124	1	3	—
1902	387	5	8	1	34	—	—	—	1482	59	23	7	111	4	—	—	207	5	4	—	124	3	1	—
Averages of Years 1898 to 1902.	358.4	8.2	4.9	.8	1266.9	38.1	18.6	3.9	1460.0	49.0	22.9	6.2	106.2	3.4	.9	.3	228.6	6.3	3.8	.5	131.2	1.8	1.8	.1
1903	387	14	5	1	34	0	0	0	1513	55	24	10	111	4	0	0	207	6	1	0	124	5	4	0

Table IV.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1903.
Name of District.—FOLESHILL RURAL.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES).														
	All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1 and 5 under 5.	5 and 15 under 15.	15 and 25 under 25.	25 and 65 under 65.	65 and upwards.	Anstey.	Bedworth.	Binley.	Exhall.	Foleshill.	Keresley.	Shilton.	Stoke.	Walsgrave.	Willenhall.	Withybrook.	Wyken.	Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	
Small-pox	1			1								6					1			1	
Measles	8	2	4	2					1												
Whooping-cough	2	1	1						2												
Diphtheria & membranous croup	7	2	3	2					4			3									
Croup	1		1						1												
Epidemic Influenza	3	1										1					1			1	
Diarrhoea	7	6	1						2			3					1				
Enteritis	7	2	1	2							1	1					1				
Erysipelas	1											1									
Other septic diseases	1								1			1									
Phthisis	15	3										5					2			2	
Other tubercular diseases	10	5	1						3			4					1				
Cancer, malignant disease	16								11		2	7					1				
Bronchitis	19	8							4			9					1				
Pneumonia	26	9	8		1				6			14	2				3			1	
Alcoholism																					
Cirrhosis of liver	3																				
Veneral diseases	1	1										1	1				1				
Premature birth	19	19							11			3					3		1		
Heart diseases	26	3							7			10	1				1		2	2	
Accidents	5				1				2			2		2			2				
Senile Decay	22								1			2		1			2				
All other causes	55	27	5						14			12	3	2			5		1	3	
All causes	255	89	25	7	5	63	66	1	103	1	13	85	9	5		24			1	4	9

Annual Report

OF

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES,

FOR

Year ending 31st December, 1903.

TO

DR. JOHN ORTON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOLESHILL.

DEAR SIR.

I beg to hand you, herewith, my Annual Report on the Work carried out in my Department, during the year ending December 31st, 1903.

I append Copy of the County Council's form C., giving, in detail, the inspections made.

FORM C.

Inspections made during the Year ending December 31st, 1903.

Dwelling Houses and Schools	{ Foul Conditions ...	...	...	2
	{ Structural Defects	...	...	12
	{ Overcrowding ...	...	...	7
	{ Unfit for Habitation	...	...	4
	Lodging Houses ...	...	...	12
	Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	61
	Cow Sheds ...	...	...	34
	Bakehouses ...	...	...	43
	Slaughter-houses	...	...	10
	Canal Boats ...	...	...	58
	Ashpits and Privies	...	...	158
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	278
	Water Closets ...	...	...	2
House Drainage	{ Defective Traps ..	...	...	13
	{ No Disconnection	...	...	6
	{ Other Faults ...	...	...	69
	{ Water Supply ...	...	...	78
	Pigstyes ...	...	...	5
	Animals improperly kept	...	...	12
	Offensive Trades	...	...	6
	Smoke Nuisances	...	...	2
	Other Nuisances	...	...	72
TOTAL				944
Seizures of unwholesome Food ...				—
Samples of Food taken for Analysis				8
,, found Adulterated, (though one was of very poor quality)				—
Samples of Water taken for Analysis				31
,, condemned as unfit for use				22
Articles of Infected Bedding Stoved				1942
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease				81
Schools ,, ,, ,,				5
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease				1
Convictions ,, ,, (maximum penalty)				1
Visits paid to Houses where Infectious Disease existed				231
Factory and Workshops (65 on Register)				81

34 cases of Smallpox were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Exhall. The whole of the bedding and articles likely to retain infection were either burned or steam disinfected, the portable Disinfector from the Hospital in Church Lane being removed to Exhall for this purpose. The houses were also thoroughly cleansed and disinfected. In one case, where the owner was not in a position to carry the work out, the cost was borne by the Council. The Council, during the period that the Epidemic was at its worst, granted me a temporary assistant, to help in the disinfection of the houses and clothing. The whole of the responsibility, however, of removal, &c., was undertaken by myself.

The number of articles which passed through the Steam Disinfector, during the year, was 1,942, and it is satisfactory to be able to report that not a single complaint has been received, since the purchase of this machine, of any article being damaged in the process of disinfection.

Owing to the prevalence of Smallpox in the County, the sale of second-hand clothes on the market at Bedworth has been stopped. Prior to this, there was a considerable trade carried on in these articles.

The Water Supply of the District has again received a considerable amount of attention. During the year, 31 samples were submitted to Dr. Bostock Hill, the County Analyst, and 22 of them were condemned as unfit for use for drinking purposes.

The samples which were considered reasonably safe or good waters for drinking purposes were taken from the following places:—

Bedworth Parish Waterworks,	...	...	3.
Burbage's Lane, Exhall,	...	...	1.
Keresley,	...	...	1.
Near Canal Bridge, Little Heath, Foleshill,			1.
Lenton's Lane, Walsgrave-on-Sowe,	...	...	3.

The District Council and the North Warwickshire Waterworks Company have been trying to come to an agreement, whereby Black Horse Lane (with 35 houses without any proper supply), and Lenton's Lane, Walsgrave-on-Sowe, may be connected to this Company's mains. It is sincerely to be hoped that these arrangements will be satisfactorily completed before the coming summer.

I regret to say, however, that Little Rayton remains in the same unsatisfactory condition that I have had to report upon for the two previous years. The houses here have to be supplied by means of buckets from a neighbouring Colliery.

I have also called the attention of the Council, during the year, to the unsatisfactory condition, as regards water supply, of the Hamlet known as Bedworth Hill, in the Parish of Exhall, but which is within a short distance of the Bedworth Supply, and I understand the Council are taking steps with a view to remedying this condition.

Five samples were submitted for Analysis from Elen's Yard, Foleshill, all of which were condemned. The North Warwickshire

Company have now continued their mains down this yard, and notices have been served upon the owners to provide a proper supply.

This course has been taken in all cases where the Analysts' Report was not satisfactory, and, in the majority of instances, they are readily complied with.

During the year, 231 visits have been paid to houses where infectious disease has been notified, and steps taken, as far as possible, to discover the probable cause of the disease, and advice given with a view to prevent the spread thereof. Sulphur candles are, upon application, given for the disinfection of the houses, upon recovery of the patient.

The Tramp Wards at the Workhouse have been thoroughly disinfected upon two occasions, during the year, viz., February 16th and November 23rd.

No seizure of unwholesome food has been necessary during the year. The Market Stalls at Bedworth have been regularly inspected, and also the Shops in the district. The Council have established an Office at Bedworth, at which I attend every Tuesday and Saturday, between the hours of 10.30 and 11.30.

Eight samples of Milk, under the Food and Drugs Act, were purchased, according to the Councils instructions, and submitted to Dr. Bostock Hill. These all proved genuine. One sample, however, was reported to be of very poor quality, only just up to the standard, and a caution was consequently sent to the person from whom I purchased the sample. The bulk of this work now falls upon the County Inspector of Weights and Measures, and it is only by the special instructions of the Council I am empowered to do this work.

As Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts, I have visited 58 Canal Boats during the year. The majority of these I find are in a satisfactory condition, and I repeat what I mentioned in previous reports, that some of these cabins are kept far cleaner than a lot of the poorer class houses in the District.

The caravans at Foleshill and Bedworth Wakes have been inspected this year, as in previous years. There were 14 vans at Foleshill, and 17 vans at Bedworth. No complaints were necessary with these vans.

The same arrangements with regard to Water Supply, &c., were made at Bedworth this year, as last.

Several complaints have, however, been received during the year, of the nuisance caused by the Gipsies who have been in the habit of stopping in a field at Longford, in the occupation of Mr. Wright. I was compelled to serve a notice upon Mr. Wright to the effect that, if he continued to allow these people to stay in his field, he must provide proper ashpit and privy accommodation, also water supply for them, and I am pleased to say no Gipsies have been there for some little time now.

The Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, and Bakehouses, &c., have all received attention during the year. The latter of these now come

under the Factory and Workshops Act, particulars of which will be found lower down. Generally speaking, these are fairly satisfactory. It was, however, necessary, in conjunction with the Council's Surveyor, to take proceedings, under the Regulations of the Cowsheds, Dairy, and Milkshops Order, against a Cowkeeper at Withybrook, for contravening these regulations. Four Summonses were issued against this man, viz. : (1) Not providing proper ventilation ; (2) Not Building Cowshed, &c., in accordance with the Building Bye-Laws, and plan submitted ; (3) Allowing a large accumulation of manure to remain in close proximity to Cowshed ; (4) Allowing his cattle to stray on the Highway.

The Magistrates convicted the defendant on each summons, and inflicted fines and costs amounting, in all, to £7 8s. 6d.

Proceedings have also been taken with respect to the abatement of the following nuisances, viz. :—

Dilapidated condition of premises, Longford.—Result : Two adjournments were granted, and afterwards a closing order made.

Defective ashpit and privy, Bell Green.—Result : 14 days allowed for work to be done. Summons afterwards withdrawn upon payment of costs.

Defective ashpit and privies, Wagon Overthrow, Exhall.—Result : Adjourned one month, for work to be done ; as no steps were taken within that time, an order was granted.

With few exceptions, I am pleased to say my Statutory Notices and Letters of Complaint are readily complied with.

The Factory and Workshops Act has now been in force for two years. During the past 12 months, 81 visits have been paid to Buildings coming within the meaning of this Act. Several of these visits have, as you are aware, been made in company with yourself. There are, at present, on the Register, 65 Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces within the District. The Bakehouses, generally speaking, were found in a fairly satisfactory condition, with the exception that the occupiers failed to grasp the fact that it was necessary to limewash the Ceilings as well as the walls (or else paint and varnish same). In the majority of these cases, verbal notice, with a caution, was sufficient, to secure the necessary requirements being carried out.

In two cases, Statutory Notices were served—one in connection with a defective ceiling to a Bakehouse, the Roadway, Bedworth. The notice was complied with, the ceiling being matchboarded, painted, and varnished. The other one was in connection with a dirty Bakehouse at Court House Green, Foleshill, and this notice has also been complied with.

In connection with the Laundries (these chiefly apply to the Parish of Keresley), these have been practically all inspected during the 12 months. The chief point appears to be the matter of the construction of the floors, to prevent the water lying in pools. Several alterations have been made, upon request, in this direction.

Notices have been served in connection with the following Factories :—Little Heath, Mineral Water Factory, in respect of the defective condition of the Floors. Near Tramway Depot, Little Heath, in connection with defective Ashpit, Privy, and Urinal accommodation. This work has now been done, and the premises are in a Sanitary condition. Workshop also at Little Heath ; the Ashpit and Privies were found in a very leaky condition, and notice served upon the owner to remedy the same. The work is now in hand.

Only one notice was received from the Factory Inspector, in connection with the Bakehouse, the Roadway, Bedworth.

Only one Factory in the District employs out-workers, and this is Messrs. Luckman and Pickering, of Bedworth, who are just completing a New Factory, built on modern lines. The three chief other factories are Messrs. Wootton & Co., Bedworth ; Messrs. Oakden & Co., Bedworth ; The Monopole Cycle Co, Foleshill. These have all been inspected, and appear to be in a Sanitary condition.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. W. WINDASS,

Sanitary Inspector.

New Buildings and Alterations.

I am indebted to Mr. Newey, the Surveyor to your Council, for the following Summary of the above, in the various Parishes :—

The following is the number of Houses built, and Alterations and Additions made, in the District, during the year ended December, 1903 :—

BEDWORTH.

33 Houses.
18 Alterations and Additions.

FOLESHILL.

51 Houses.
25 Alterations and Additions.

WALSGRAVE-ON-SOWE.

3 Houses.
12 Alterations and Additions.

KERESLEY.

5 Alterations and Additions.

EXHALL.

3 Alterations and Additions.

WILLENHALL.

1 Alteration and Addition.

WITHYBROOK.

1 Alteration and Addition.

Plans for the following Houses, and Alterations or Additions to Property, have been submitted to, and approved of, by the above Council, during the year ended December, 1903 :—

BEDWORTH.

36 Houses.
14 Alterations and Additions.

FOLESHILL.

59 Houses.
24 Alterations and Additions.

WALSGRAVE-ON-SOWE.

2 Houses.
14 Alterations and Additions.

KERESLEY.

1 House.
5 Alterations and Additions.

EXHALL.

- 1 House.
- 2 Alterations and Additions.

WILLENHALL.

- 1 Alteration and Addition.

WITHYBROOK.

- 1 Alteration and Addition.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JOHN ORTON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

