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Contributors

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LEAKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH.

for the year ending 31st December 1909.

Gentlemen,

I Have the honour to present to you my annual report for the year 1909.

I have not followed the usual routine of previous years, but have endeavoured as nearly as possible to conform to the recommendations contained in a recent Memorandum of the Local Government Board on this subject.

Area in statute acres	17076.
Population (1901)	3709.
Number of inhabited houses	657.
Average number of persons per house	4.3

The physical features and general character of the district are an undulating rural district; high on the North Eastern portion, gradually sloping downwards to the West towards the river Soar. The greater part of the district is hilly, bare and treeless, and consists mostly of grazing land. The Western and lower portions, namely the parishes of Stanford, Normanton, and Sutton Bonington, are well wooded and picturesque and a considerable portion of the land is under cultivation.

The chief occupation of the inhabitants is agriculture and their condition is fairly prosperous.

The house accommodation for the working classes is fairly adequate and the cottages, in many instances small and old fashioned, are all fit for habitation; there is abundance of space around the houses and the cleanliness of the surroundings leaves little to be desired.

There is no systematic supervision over the erection of new houses and there have been very few new houses erected in the district, the population being almost stationary. No action under the Housing of the Working Classes Act was taken or needed.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of the district is derived exclusively from wells, and as the quality of well water is constantly liable to change on account of contamination by soakage of liquid filth from the surface of the adjacent ground, movement of subsoil water etc, the matter has received constant attention during the year.

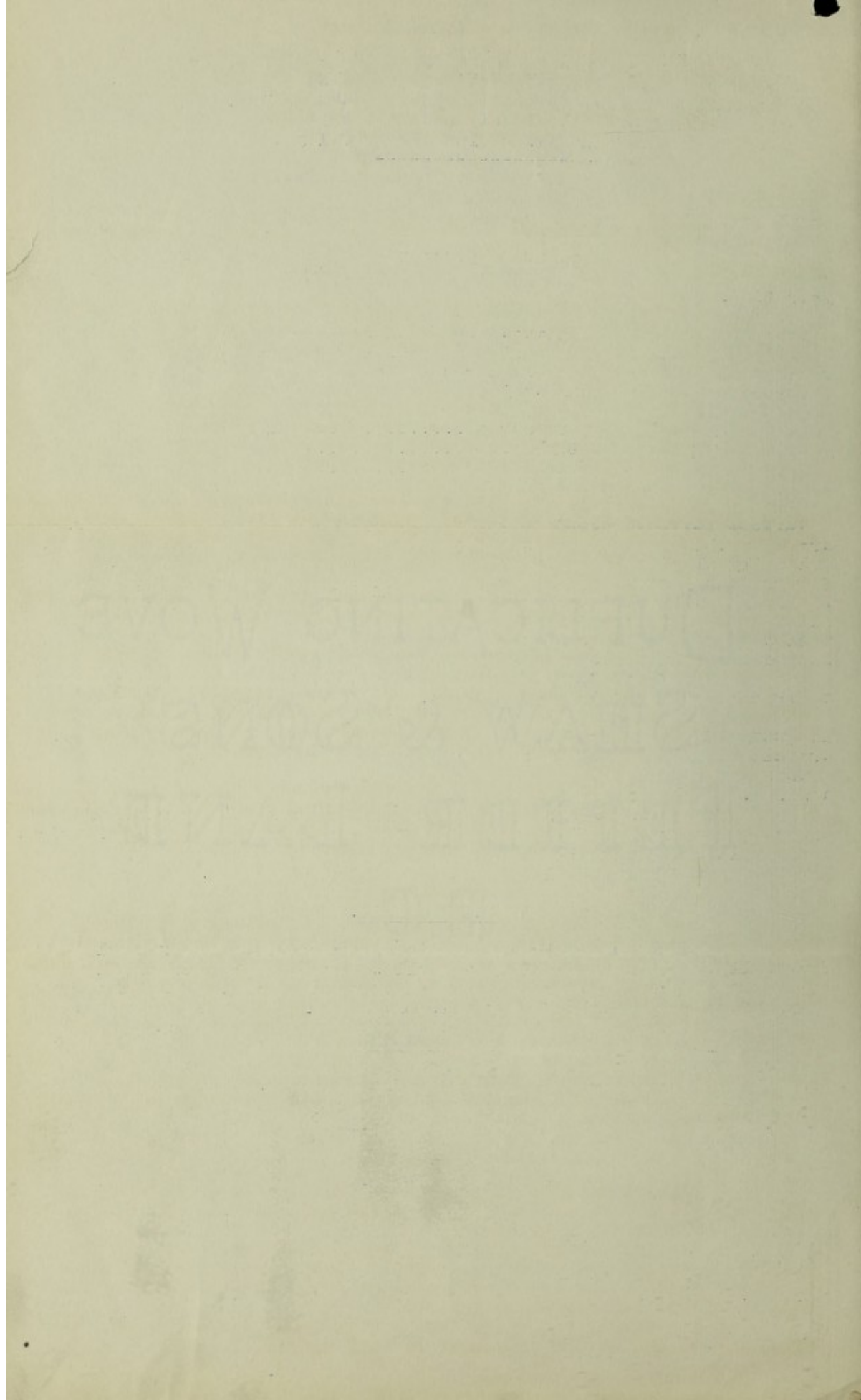
17 samples of drinking water were submitted to me by your Inspector of Nuisances. In 2 cases the water was so impure as to justify me in condemning it as unfit for drinking. In each of these cases steps were taken to provide a suitable supply of drinking water. In no instance was any plumbic-solvent action found to exist in the various waters

MILK SUPPLY.

This is derived from farms in the district; there is no milk imported but considerable quantities are sent out of the district to London and elsewhere.

The dairies are subject to regular inspection under the dairies, cowsheds and Milkshops order. Every precaution is taken to insure ventilation and cleanliness of cowsheds and dairies, and also to detect tuberculous milch cows.

I strongly recommend that a Veterinary Inspector be appointed to assist the Inspector in this matter.



OTHER FOODS.

The only places where foods are prepared, stored, or exposed for sale, are butchers' shops and slaughter-houses, greengrocers' shops, bakers' shops and bakehouses, and grocers' shops. These are all cleanly and well kept and there has been no reason to take any action during the year.

The Food and Drugs Act is administered by the police.

No action was taken or became necessary under Section 117 of the Public Health Act 1875.

There were no carcasses or parts of carcasses condemned for tuberculosis.

SEWERAGE and DRAINAGE.

At Sutton Bonington a complete system of sewerage has been in operation during the year and is giving satisfactory results, the effluent being everything that could be desired.

Throughout the remainder of the district liquid house refuse finds its way in the ordinary manner through the house drain to the village sewer and thence by the lines of natural drainage (which in most instances are long dykes) to the nearest river or brook; these dykes are really long settling tanks in which most of the suspended matter is deposited and a large quantity of dissolved matter is oxydised and otherwise converted by bacterial action, so that there is very little pollution of rivers or streams from the various parishes constituting the district.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

The system in vogue for the purpose is the old fashioned midden and privy arrangement, the defects of which are soaking of liquid contents into the subsoil and polluting the water supply, which as stated above is derived from wells.

Efforts have been made during the last few years to reduce the number of deeply sunk middens and to substitute for them pan closets, or middens, the floors of which as well as the sides above the level of the ground, are constructed of concrete or other impervious material, and this course of procedure will be continued in the future.

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

This is done by the householder; there are no public scavengers.

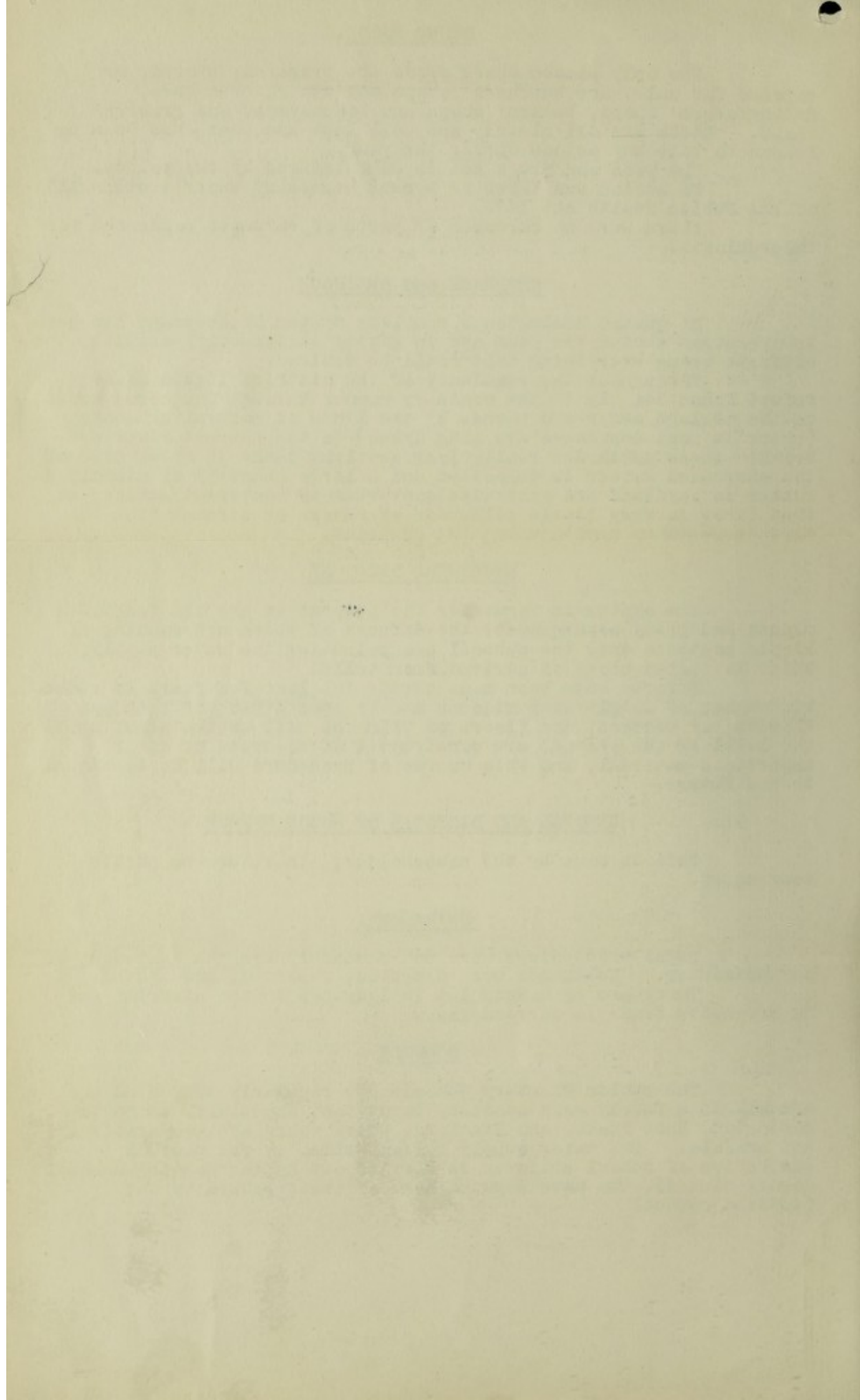
NUISANCES.

Legal proceedings were not necessary for the abatement of any nuisances. Nuisances were detected, reported, and abated.

There are no houses let in lodgings in the district and no offensive trade is carried on.

SCHOOLS.

The public Elementary Schools are regularly inspected and are all in a fairly good sanitary condition, especially at Sutton Bonington, East Leake, and Stanford, where there are comparatively new schools. The water supply is from wells. The medical inspection of school children is carried out by the Nottinghamshire County Council, who have deputed none of their powers to the District Council.



INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATION ACT.

This Act is in force in the district; arrangements are in force between this Council and the Town Council of the borough of Loughborough, whereby cases of diphtheria and enteric fever may be removed to their Isolation Hospital. Cases of other diseases are isolated at their homes. The number of cases of each disease will be given under separate heading further on in the report.

At Stanford the school was closed for 14 days in January in consequence of the prevalence of mumps.

DISINFECTION.

After cases of infectious disease the rooms, clothing etc are disinfected by sulphur dioxide, except in the case of tuberculosis; when a case of this disease comes to the knowledge of the Sanitary Officials a visit is made to the house and instructions are given as to the avoidance of spitting on the ground, ventilation, and isolation, and the house is afterwards sprayed periodically with formaldehyde. When a death occurs the house is disinfected with sulphur dioxide after it has been thoroughly cleansed. There is no hospital accommodation available for either early or advanced cases of tuberculosis.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered in 64, which is 28 less than last year and 26 below the average of the last ten years; this is an annual birth rate of 17.2 per thousand of the population.

MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths registered as occurring within the district is 49, which is 6 more than last year and is 3 below the average of the last ten years. To this number however must be added 5 deaths of residents of the district which occurred in public institutions beyond the district; this brings the number up to 54, which is an annual death rate of 14.5 per thousand of the population and is 2 more than last year and practically the average of the last ten years.

INFANT MORTALITY.

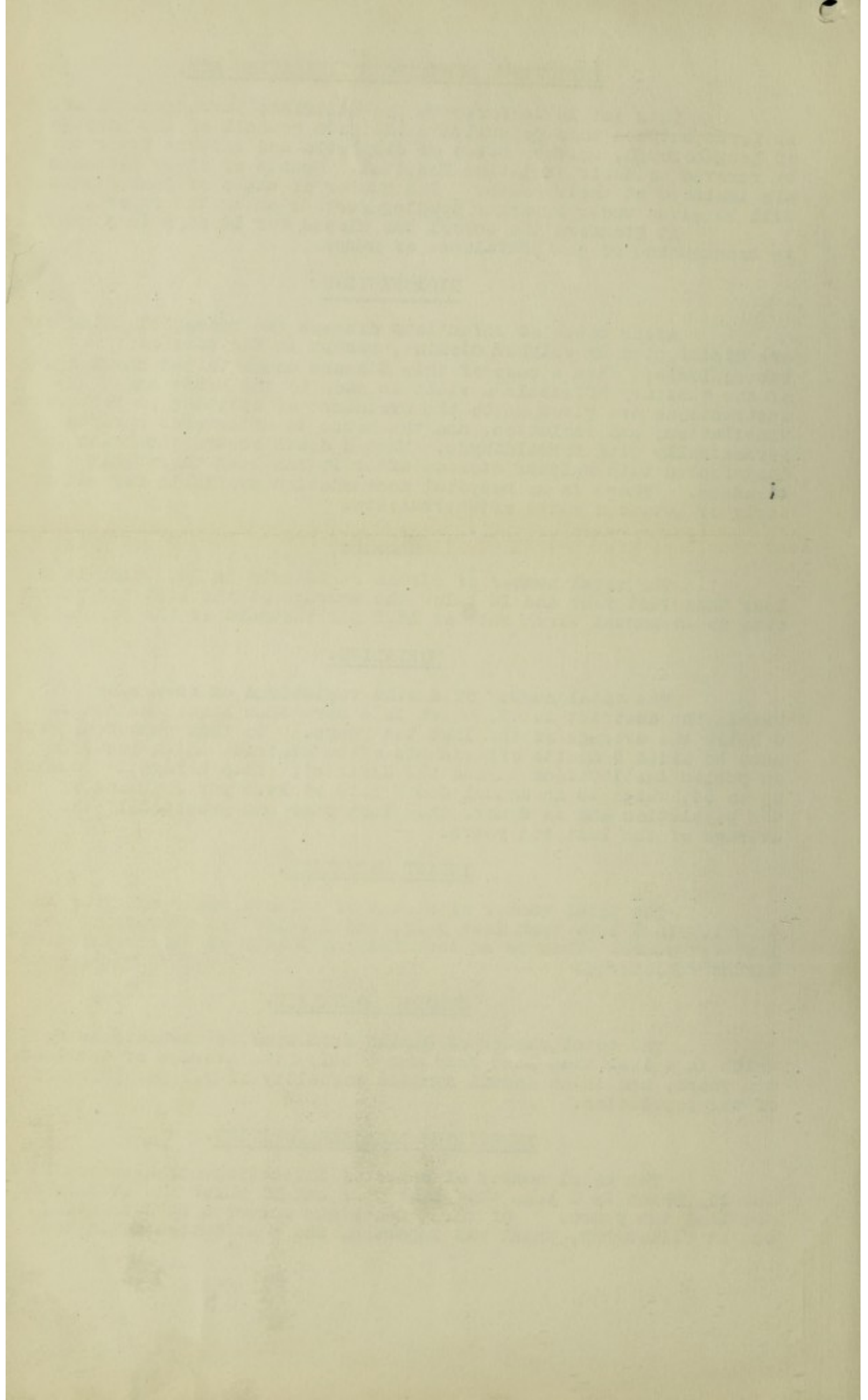
The total number of deaths of infants under one year is 4, which is 3 less than last year, and 2 below the average of the last ten years. This is an infantile mortality of 62 per thousand births registered.

ZYMOTIC MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths from zymotic diseases is 2, which is 4 less than last year and 3 below the average of the last ten years, and is an annual zymotic mortality of 0.5 per thousand of the population.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases notified was 10, which is 3 less than last year and 19 below the average of the last ten years. Of these cases one occurred at Hornanston, one at Willoughby, which was imported, and 8 at Sutton Bonington.



INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (continued)

The cases were as follows :-

Diphtheria.....	4
Erysipilas	2
Scarlet Fever	1
Enteric fever	3

DIPHTHERIA.

Four cases of this disease were notified, which is 5 less than last year and 9 below the average of the last ten years. One occurred at Normanton in January and was attributable to local insanitary conditions; 3 occurred at Sutton Bonington, in two instances the disease being attributable to impure drinking water and in the third case no insanitary conditions could be discovered. There was no spread of the disease from either of these cases.

SCARLET FEVER.

Only one case of this disease was notified and that one was imported.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Three cases of this disease were notified, which is one less than last year and is equal to the average of the last ten years; all occurred at Sutton Bonington, one in October, one in November, and one in December. One case was attributable to local insanitary conditions and in the other two cases no cause was discoverable.

ERYSIPILAS.

Two cases of this disease were notified, both being at Sutton Bonington.

FACTORY & WORKSHOPS ACT 1901.

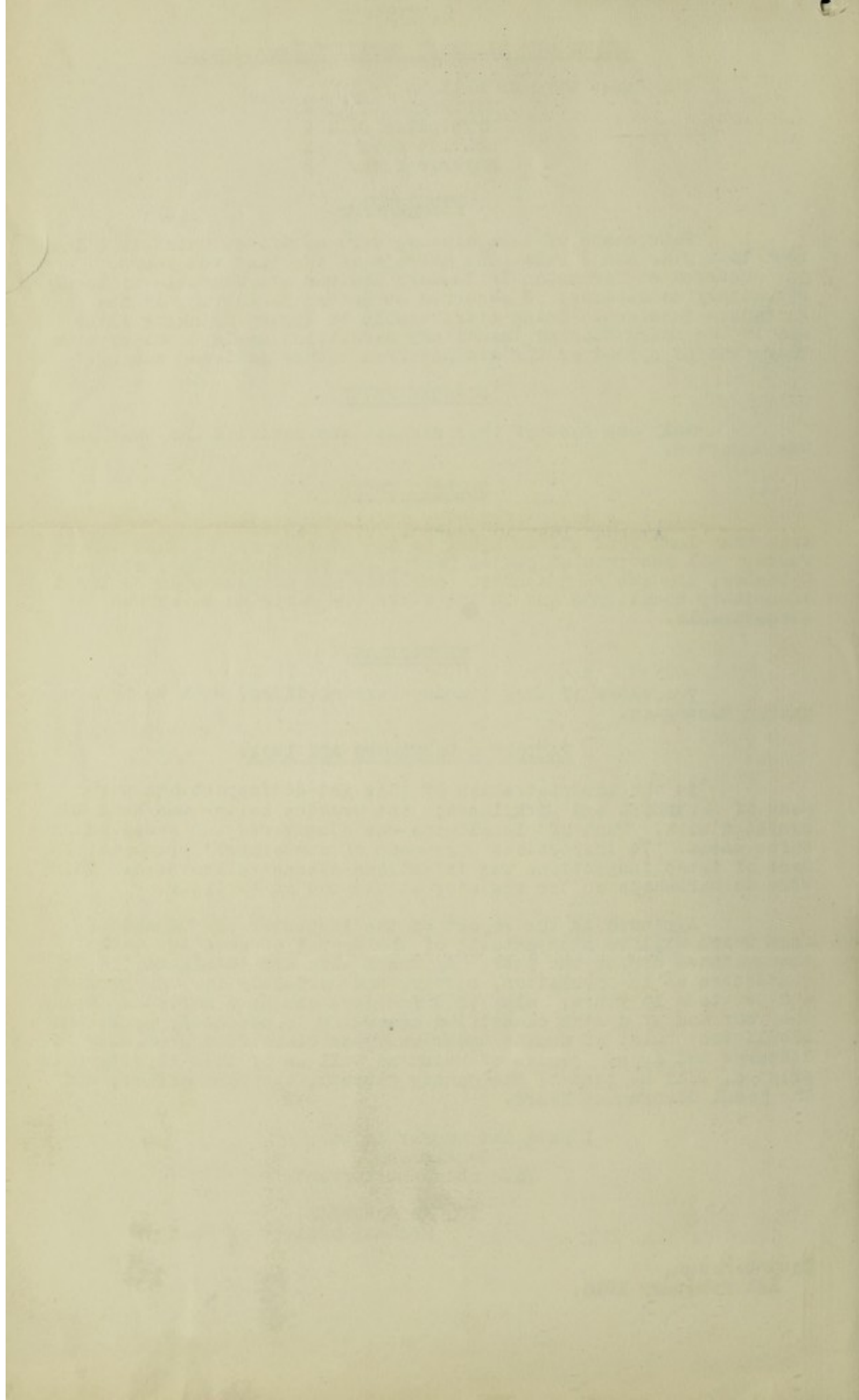
In the administration of this Act 48 inspections were made of workshops and workplaces; one written notice was sent and complied with. Want of cleanliness was discovered and remedied in three cases. 74 inspections were made of outworkers' premises; in none of these inspections was infectious disease discovered. There were 48 workshops on the register at the end of the year.

Appended is the report of the Inspector of Nuisances, from which will be seen details of the amount of sanitary work accomplished during the year. Appended also are tabulated statistics as to population, births, and mortality for the present and previous 10 years; also of infectious diseases notified during the year and of deaths classified according to diseases, ages, and localities; also of deaths under one year classified according to diseases and ages. Copies of which as well as of this report, when printed, will be sent to the County Council, the Home Office, and the Local Government Board.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS CORCORAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

Loughborough,
1st February 1910.



STATISTICS.

Mortality from subjoined causes :- Epidemic influenza 1, Enteric fever 1, Phthisis 2, Other tuberculous diseases 1, Cancer 1, Bronchitis 4, Pneumonia 3, Alcoholism 1, Premature birth 1, Heart diseases 4, Diseases and accidents of parturition 1, Accidents 2, All other causes 52. Total 54.

Parish.	Births Registered.	Average last 10 years.	Deaths Registered.	Average last 10 years.
Costock.	5	6	6	5
East Leake.	18	25	14	14
Normanton.	2	9	5	4
Rempstone.	2	6	1	4
Stanford.	5	3	2	2
Sutton Bonington.	17	20	9	15
Thorpe-in-Globe & Wysall.	2	4	8	2
West Leake.	3	2	3	2
Willoughby.	10	11	6	5

Total births registered 64
 Average last 10 years 90
 Rate per 1000 for last year 17.2
 Average last 10 years 23.4
 Total deaths registered ... 54
 Average last 10 years 55
 Rate per 1000 for last year 14.5
 Average last 10 years 14.4

To the Chairman and Members of the
 Leake Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

The following table is a summary of the work carried out during the year 1909 in the various parishes comprising the Rural District of Leake.

No. of houses fumigated after infectious diseases.....	4
„ samples of water taken for analysis	4
„ wells cleansed, repaired, or examined	4
„ middens etc cleansed or repaired by order	21
„ new middens etc provided	15
„ privies converted into pan closets	6
„ insanitary conditions remedied	23
„ drains taken up, unstopped, or cleansed by order	5
„ drains taken up and new ones laid	31
„ accumulations of manure & refuse removed	5
„ cowsheds cleansed, limewashed, or repaired	10
„ new gullies and connections made and paving	20
„ provided or relaid.....	20
„ licences to store petrol issued	1

The sewage dykes, cessapools etc in the various parishes have been cleansed as often as required.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
 Your obedient servant,
 GEORGE SMITH.

Inspector of Nuisances.

East Leake,
 13th January 1910.

