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THE ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 1925.
on the
RURAL DISTRICT OF
& BELVOIR
# MELTON MOWBRAY
BY
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1925.
TO THE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MELTON MOWBRAY.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1925. By request of the Ministry of Health, this report includes a survey of the previous five years to show the measure of progress in the area, and the extent and character of the changes occuring during that period in the public health services, and especially in the housing, water-supply, sewerage and drainage, refuse disposal, and other sanitary services, and the means adopted for preventing diseases. I have taken this opportunity of making the report even more retrospective, and of placing on record facts which I believe to be of importance to the district and of interest to your members.

The area of Melton Mowbray Rural District consists of 91,848 acres. The population at the Census of 1921 was 14,619; and in the middle of 1925 was estimated to be 14,730. This area consists of undulating lands, the subsoil being in part of blue lias clay, in part of iron-stone formation, elsewhere of graval, and of again yellow clay. Want of space prevents a description of the geological features. The District is agricultural for the most part, and comprises one of the finest hunting districts in the Kingdom. There are however, iron-smelting works at Asfordby which derive their ore from the iron-bearing strata in various parts of your district. The social conditions correspond to the type of land. The greater part of the area consists of pastures which are valuable for dairy purposes and yield the renowned Stilton Cheese, besides other dairy products. The amount of arable land is smaller, and the production of cereals and roots is in like proportion. Besides agriculture and iron-smelting there are few occupations;there used to be a few lace machines in one or two villages, but I am not aware of any existing to-day; a few people are engaged in lace-mending for Nottingham manufacturers; and a few in laundry work. Other occupations are market gardening, and the usual shop keepers for the supply of necessities to the district.

The number of occupied houses in 1921 was	3,535
Working class houses	2,620
Number of families or seperate occupiers	3,595
The Rateable value of the District	£192,169
The sum produced by a penny-rate	£500.

The amount of Poor-law relief. The circumstances which followed the Great War have resulted in an increase in the amount of Poor-law relief found necessary by the Guardians of the Poor, to prevent actual starvation amongst those who are incapable of work, as well as those who are unable to find employment. The lack of suitable employment in a district, such as ours, results in the Removal of many people to industrial centres. That is to say, able-bodied men have to seek elsewhere for a livelihood; and this tends to decrease the population of the area, and to corresponding reduction of the birth rate. A glance at the table giving the population of all the villages in your district, shows that the population of the whole area is less than it was fifty years ago. This is unnatural. Moreover, the increased cost og living is such that many people in the receipt of old-age pensions and military pensions apply to the Guardians for further doles. There is a probability amounting almost to a certainty that malingering exists, in our rural districts, among able-bodied and slightly defective persons, even as it does in the large towns.

And this increases the expenditure in out-door relief. The cost of maintenance of infirm and other persons in the Workhouse and poor law Infirmary has also been increased in proportion to the increased cost of living per person and the upkeep of these establishments.

THE POPULATION OF THE VILLAGES IN MELTON MOWBRAY RURAL DISTRICTS

Census	1871	1881	1891	1921
Ab-Kettleby	202	230	242	263
Asfordby	513	539	717	1410
Ashby Folville	178	131	115	119
Barsby	269	254	188	163
Bescaby	25	9	31	26
~~Branston~~	~~247~~	~~257~~		
Branston	319	247	257	218
Brentingby & Wyfordby	103	104	141	102
Brooksby	61	67	42	43
Buckminster	311	253	328	287
Burrough	147	149	139	206
Burton Lazars	231	244	311	192
Cold Overton				107
Coston	164	133	104	75
Eastwell	159	163	200	146
Eaton	382	351	437	490
Edmondthorpe	238	209	251	173
Freeby	131	132	131	153
Frisby	366	396	381	370
Gaddesby	280	241	240	271
Garthorpe	128	120	125	106
Goadby Marwood	173	155	155	155
Great Dalby	468	455	392	317
Grimston	164	153	175	198
Harby	539	591	637	617
Hoby	327	311	290	249
Holwell	147	268	238	199
Hose	403	437	408	427
Kirby Bellars	260	271	258	247
Knossington				230
Little Dalby	210	154	184	118
Long Clawson	780	747	753	657
Nether Broughton	405	454	400	373
Upper Broughton	370	327	345	
Old Dalby	320	335	345	324
Pickwell & Leesthorpe	137	249	262	170
Ragdale	127	102	104	90
Rotherby	132	153	148	128
Saltby	290	272	253	192
Saxby	121	120	182	95
Saxelby	81	84	98	71
Scalford	554	684	646	580
Sewstern	254	201	208	222
Shoby	20	75	23	53
Somerby	523	531	488	480
Sproxton	408	355	356	316
Stapleford	120	114	125	133
Stathern	495	539	608	531
Stonesby	261	216	251	166
Sysonby	73	96	147	191
-Do-with Eye Kettleby		54		85
Thorpe Arnold	147	147	133	133
Thorpe Satchville	209	169	276	195
Twyford	382	426	330	333
Waltham	625	595	547	484
Wartnaby	129	155	105	127
Welby	55	62	51	107
Wycomb & Chadwell	97	107	89	94
Wymondham	776	655	905	610
Total	14847	14734	15141	14619

In 1901 the Census showed a population of 14,865
In 1911 the Census showed a population of 15,272.
In 1916 the Civil population was - - - - -14,244.

THE OUTBREAKS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There was no proper system of notification of infectious diseases in your District until the year 1896. Prior to that time we had to rely upon voluntary information afforded by Doctors, Clergymen, Schoolmasters and others of the existence of infectious diseases in any village. In 1884 I strongly recommended the adoption of cumpulsory notification, because, even with voluntary notification ~~establishmen~~ establishment as a custom, it was impossible to locate the cases accurately and ascertain the number of cases and the methods adopted (if any) to prevent the disease from spreading. In those days isolation of infectious cases was not carried out at all carefully; nor was it possible to do so in many households, because people had not a room which they could set apart for such a purpose. Moreover the people were ignorant or acted very carelessly, and made little attempt to isolate their cases. In the year 1884 I recommended that steps should be taken to provide an institution to which people, otherwise unable to isolate the infected persons, should be able to send their cases. I did not cease to recommend these measures until notification was made compulsory, and an Isolation Hospital was in being and opened in 1906. The isolation of infected persons was not the only defect of many villages. The drainage was very bad in many of them; the water was also bad in some places. There is a correlation between the improvement of the drainage and water supply with the diminution in the number of cases of fever (including Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever). It is for this reason I have endeavoured to make plain the position with regard to the drainage and the occurence of infectious diseases. There were 210 cases of Scarlet Fever, 92 cases of Diphtheria and 6 cases of Typhoid Fever in the year 1882; 33 cases of Diphtheria, 140 Scarlet Fever and 8 Typhoid Fever in 1883; and 55 cases of Diphtheria, 70 Scarlet Fever and 1 Typhoid Fever in 1884. When these numbers are compared with those of later years, we must acknowledge a vast difference. I have arranged tables which show the notifications from year to year; the number of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria which occurred in all the larger villages and the number of Typhoid cases. It occurs to me that this is the easiest way of showing where the diseases were prevalent, and the decline in numbers from year to year

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATH FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

			NOTIFICATIONS.				
Year.	Small-Pox.	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Cerebro ~~Fever~~ Spinal etc.	Tuberculosis.	Cases treated in Hospital.
1882	3	112	210	6			
1883		33	140	8			
1884		45	70	1			
1885		50	30	1			
1886		17	8				
1887	3	24	12	5			
1888	1	25	13	4			
1889		14	20	1			
1890		10	130	2			
1891	2	29	20	1			
1892	1		48				
1893	9	10	10	3			
1894	1	3	22	1			
1895		1	3				
1896		3	28	5			
1897		16	39				
1898		10	23	4			

Year	Small-Pox	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid Fever	Cerebro Spinal etc.	Tuberculosis.	Cases treated in Hospital.
1899		8	164	7			
1900		14	98	4			
1901	-	-	-	-			
1902		7	21	4			
1903		-	-	-			
1904	6	55		3			
1905		26	73	2			
1906		13	24	6			32
1907	1	14	42	46	1		84
1908		51	42	2			53
1909		35	72	2			53
1910		12	40	4	37	3	36
1911		8	36	3		1	47
1912		28	27	9	2	19	48
1913		32	67	2		24	39
1914		22	71	3		13	62
1915		30	31	1	1	19	47
1916		19	46	5	2	15	..
1917		10	14	11	2	13	33
1918		15	11			14	19
1919		16	14	7	1	21	28
1920		10	45		1	11	
1921		8	20		1	12	29
1922		4	1	2		14	7
1923		6	5	3	1	15	15
1924	4	10	4	3	2	13	20
1925		9	41			12	45

DEATHS.

Year.	Small-Pox.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever	Cerebro Spinal etc.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Tuberculosis.
1882		4	21	3		15	
1883		5	14	4		21	12
1884		3	5	1		19	13
1885		13	2	1		21	7
1886		1				22	6
1887		3		3		12	3
1888		7	1	1		19	
1889		2		1		?	
1890		1	6	1		?	
1891		1	2				
1892		-	-	-		-	
1893		2	3	2		7	
1894		2	1	1		13	
1895						15	
1896		2	2	1		13	
1897		4	2			16	
1898		1	1	1		14	
1899		3				4	
1900		3	4			10	6
1901		-	-			-	-
1902		1		1		19	3
1903		-		-		-	-
1904	1	3		1		14	6
1905		6	3			14	7
1906			2			10	5
1907		2				10	4
1908		6				10	3
1909		5				7	2
1910			1		4	17	2
1911		2			1	10	4
1912		5		1		10	4
1913		1				9	3
1914		1	1			10	3

DEATHS (Cont'd)

Year.	Small-Pox	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Cerebro Spinal etc.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Tuberculosis.
1915		1			1	7	6
1916		4		1		7	3
1917		1		1		13	6
1918		2				7	2
1919						7	4
1920		1				2	6
1921						3	2
1922		1		1		4	1
1923						9	2
1924		1			1	6	3
1925						9	1

1896 voluntary notification ceased, statutory notification began.
1906 The Isolation Hospital was opened.
1908 The Tuberculosis regulations came into force.

DIPHTHERIA. The occurrence of "Sewer throats" and "drain throats" were very common in some of your villages before the name of "Diphtheria" was used to distinguish the particular disease to which the name is applied. For this reason Diphtheria does not appear in the records of disease in some of your Parishes until later years. I know for instance that there were cases of Diphtheria in Asfordby much earlier than I have any record of it by that name. In the early years of this century, however, it was not only reported as Sore-throat which kept some children from school, but in 1908 there was a definite outbreak of Diphtheria in Asfordby and 16 cases were notified; in ~~1910~~ 1909 there were 10 cases, in 1913 there were 28 cases. After that there were only two or three cases a year until 1919 when 8 more were notified; it has since sunk to an occasional case. The earlier cases were usually associated with bad drinking water or drains. But by the year 1900 a different state of things arose which had much to do with its later appearance. Asfordby is the seat of the Iron-smelting industry in your District, and the increase of work year~~ly~~ by year from 1882 onwards has necessitated the erection of houses which were built rather close together. In 1900 or thereabouts, it began to be noticed that the small gardens attached to these houses were becoming filled by the refuse from the closets, chiefly pan closets; in consequence the drinking water from the wells became impure. From this I deduced the origin of many of the throat cases which kept occurring. The worst cases occurred in the valley. I recommended the appointment of a Scavenger to empty the pan closets regularly and during the time since the regular removal of the refuse, there has been a decline of the disease. Moreover there is now a good water supply for all the houses belonging to the Iron Company.

Long Clawson is a long straggling village which has been very difficult to drain. A brook runs through the village, which formerly received a large proportion of the sewage of the village, as well as from pigstyes, and farm premises, insomuch that in 1882 it was little better than an open Sewer. The water supply of this village was also very defective, and even now it is not very good. There have been many outbreaks of Diphtheria in this village, especially in 1882-3 and in 1896-7. Since then there have been many improvements in the drainage and a reduction in the number of cases, none occuring in some years.

Stathern has had many out-breaks of "Sore-throats", but since the occurrence in 1884, there have only been occasional cases of Diphtheria.

Nether Broughton has had an unfortunate history owing to the condition of the drains, but Diphtheria only came into prominence in that village in this century. The frequent occurrence of Scarlet Fever in this village is referred to elsewhere.

Hose, Harby, Buckminster, Sewstern and other places have likewise had out-breaks of this disease which appear to be correlated with the conditions of the drains and water supply.

SCARLET FEVER. The occurrence of 210 cases of Scarlet Fever in 1882, 140 in 1883, and 60 or 70 in 1884 is sufficient evidence of the prevalence of this disease in your District in the past. I have been able to arrange the outbreaks of this disease in a table so that it may be seen when and where the cases existed. The figures given for some of the Parishes in the serious outbreak of 1882-3 may be questioned, because we had no accurate notification and the numbers were obtained after visiting the villages and making personal enquiries, but even so the number 210 for 1882 is a low one, as the figures given make a higher total, and some of the smaller villages have not been included in the table. Ashby Folville, Eastwell (had 4 cases in 1883) Chadwell, Wycombe, Little Dalby, Hoby, Ragdale, Rotherby, Freeby, Burrough, and Leesthorpe have all had occasional cases. Pickwell had 15 cases in 1890 and 8 in 1898; Garthorpe had 5 in 1918; Brentingby had 4 in 1909; Eye Kettleby 5 in 1916; Burrough 3 in 1910; and odd cases at other times. All the other unnamed Parishes have had an odd case now and then.

Statutory notification was not enforced in your District until 1896, and isolation of the Patients used to be very imperfectly carried out. There was a sort of fatalism in the minds of the people about it; it was regarded as a childish ailment, and if they had got to have it, it could not be prevented. I took early steps to instruct the Schoolmasters not to permit any child from an infected house to attend school. nor infected children to return to school, until after the desquamation of the body and disinfection of the house.

The difficulty of ensuring the disinfection of a house and its contents became evident. I had reason to suspect the imperfect disinfection of clothing in many cases. Thus a close enquiry frequently elicited the fact that a fresh occurrence of Scarlet Fever arose after some article of clothing from a previously infected house, where it had lain away in a drawer or cupboard or box, perhaps for several years, was brought out and worn by a child or person who previously had not had the disease. The theory of contagion by fomites (substances which absorb and transmit contagion) receives support from these occurrences.

There also seems to be a periodicity in the occurrence of Scarlet Fever. The annual numbers rise and fall, and my table shows a space of about ten years between the maxima. It is difficult to account for these increases, but they occur. It may be that the periods of increase correspond with the arrival of a fresh batch of children at an age of susceptibility. There is, of course, the question of "return cases" which are said to keep the disease going. A "return case" is one which arises after some person has been discharged from the Isolation Hospital; it happens from various causes e.g. the person returning home may have a discharging ear or nose which is infectious. Such cases are not as common as they were formerly. The Hospital was opened in 1906; but the "periodicity" to an which I refer, was noticeable before that date and could therefore have nothing to do with "return cases". The anxiety of parents to have their children home from hospital as soon as possible is understandable; but if children are sent home with sore noses and ears such a course will only increase the public expenditure in endeavouring to combat Scarlet Fever. This, I believe, is not now allowed.

TYPHOID FEVER. The occurrence of Typhoid Fever in your District with the exception of occasional cases, has been confined to a few Parishes. Twyford had 3 cases in 1883, 5 cases with 3 deaths in 1887, 1 in 1910 1 in 1911, 2 in 1912, 2 in 1914; 14 cases in 6 outbreaks. Thorpe Satchville had 4 cases in 1887, 1 in 1889, 1 in 1893, 2 in 1911, 4 in 1916, 2 in 1917, 1 in 1922; 15 cases in 7 outbreaks. Stathern had 3 cases in 1883. Harby had 3 in 1882, 3 in 1886, 1 in 1889; 7 cases with 3 deaths. Long Clawson had 1 case in 1888, 2 in 1893, 2 in 1898, 1 in 1915. Wymondham had 3 cases in 1897, 2 in 1899, 3 in 1907, 2 in 1908, and 1 in 1914. Edmondthorpe had a fatal case in 1882. Branstone had a fatal case in 1882 and another fatal case in 1890. Great Dalby had several cases in 1891. Waltham had 4 cases in 1900, 1 in 1904, 1 in 1917. Asfordby had a serious outbreak of Typhoid in 1907; the total number was 40. Of these 33 were treated in Hospital.

The first case was a farm servant, and it is believed that a very large proportion of the subsequent cases were associated with the consumption of milk from that farm. The water supply of the farm was badly polluted, contained disease germs, and this was distinctly proved to be the cause of the outbreak. It is not claimed that it was the cause of the continuance of the Fever, because the supply of milk from that Farm was stopped. It was thought that some of the cases arose through the infection of privies and lavatories by mild cases of the Fever who were able for a time to keep about the house. There had been no case in the Parish for some time prior to this outbreak (1 in 1904), and the subsequent cases notified were 1 in 1910, 1 in 1911, 3 in 1912, 1 in 1917, 1 in 1919. There were two cases in a house in Welby Lane in 1896. Hoby. In the year 1900 there was a remarkable outbreak of diarrhoea in this village beginning in April and extending through May, associated with the drinking of water from Henson's spring and spreading through this village to Ragdale, and one or two adjacent villages. The best houses in Hoby have a supply of good water, but one side of the village is supplied chiefly with water from springs in (1) Cobbler's Close and (2) Henson's Spring. The latter was believed to be associated with this epidemic, which was never named Typhoid Fever although some of the cases were like mild Typhoid (? Paratyphoid). About 20 to 30 families draw their supply from Henson's Spring, which, although usually yielding excellent drinking water, had become seriously polluted. In time this water supply cleared itself of impurities, and so far as I know, there has been but one more case of Typhoid in the village, viz in 1917. At Twyford where Typhoid has occurred time after time, there were several polluted wells which were associated with the earlier outbreaks but a new public well was sunk in 1885 (or 7) for the west end of the village. Another source of trouble is the Brook running through this village. In 1889 I wrote to you that "this brook is a recurring nuisance". Time after time has this book been very foul and quite bad enough to cause an outbreak of disease. It has been cleared out from time to time; but even to-day it is often a nuisance threatening seriously to affect the health of the people. Although there have been fewer cases of Typhoid in Long Clawson, the brook in that Parish is a similar nuisance. Knossington had 4 cases of Typhoid in 1923-4 associated with one well. Ashby Folville had 2 cases in 1912; Thorpe Arnold 1 in 1912 and 3 in 1917; Ab-Kettleby 2 in 1913. The rest of the cases were odd ones occuring as follows :- Little Dalby, Kirby Bellars, Chadwell, Grimstone, Thorpe Arnold, Garthorpe, Frisby, Freeby, Burton Lazars; Buckminster,had 4 in 1888; Somerby had several in 1887 and 2 in 1906.

SMALL POX. No epidemic of this disease has occurred. The outbreaks which have come to my knowledge, have been limited each time to one or two Parishes. These cases have occurred most commonly in the ironstone area, where casual labour is most common, Wymondham had 3 outbreaks from 1887 to 1891 with 7 cases. Scalford had 3 cases in 1882, 1 in 1893, 2 in 1924; Burton Lazars 3 in 1892 associated with Melton Mowbray; Harby 4 cases in 1893 and Hoby 1. There was a total of 9 cases in the whole district in 1893. Eaton had 6 cases in 1903; Asfordby had 1, Sysonby 2, Freeby 3; total 6 cases in 1904. Somerby had 1 case in 1906. There were 4 cases in 1924 viz:- Scalford 2, Welby Lane 1, Thorpe Arnold 1. These cases have been treated in the Small Pox Hospital.

CHIKEN POX. has been prevalent in your District at various times, It is not regularly notifiable, but on September 17th. 1904 your Council made this disease notifiable for twelve months, with the result that 18 cases were brought to my knowledge in 1904 and 32 in 1905. In 1910 a few cases occurred at Buckminster and at Pickwell. In 1911 there were cases at Harby, Stathern, Long Clawson and Thorpe Arnold. In 1912 there were cases at Barsby, Branstone, Asfordby, Clawson, Goadby Marwood, Hose, Pickwell, Somerby and Stathern. It seems to have disappeared for a year or two. In 1914 it appeared in 12 Parishes and the schools were closed on account of it at Burrough, Hose and Twyford. It was prevalent again in 1916, and

schools were closed at Scalford, Stapleford and Thorpe Arnold. In 1917 it was still prevalent in Thorpe Arnold, Freeby, Branstone, Stonesby and Rotherby. There were few cases in 1918 but the school was closed at Harby. It broke out again in 1921 and was prevalent at Asfordby and Grimstone. In 1923 it appeared in several villages; in 1924 the disease was made compulsory for 3 months and 22 cases were notified. The outbreak fell chiefly on Burrough 5, Asfordby 6, Kirby Bellars 2 in April and 6 in December; the rest were odd cases. The Disease was also made notifiable again in January 1925 for 3 months owing to an outbreak of Small Pox, but only 4 cases were notified in that period.

MEASLES. This disease seems ever present in your District. There are times when the number of cases are at a minimum, as in 1919 when I recorded "a happy relief from serious outbreaks of disease". On the other hand, the disease appears to attain a maximum intencity about every third year. Thus, in 1906 about 60 cases were known to me in Holwell, Scalford, Ab-Kettleby, Waltham and Eaton - mostly in the Autumn. In 1907 the disease became epidemic. The number of cases was unknown, but schools had to be closed at Burton Lazars, Asfordby, Frisby, Rotherby, Great Dalby, Little Dalby, Harby, Stathern and Freeby. There were few cases in 1908. In 1909 there were many cases at Frisby, Burrough and Twyford and in 1910 schools were closed at Grimstone, Old Dalby and Garthorpe in February and March. In the first three months of 1911, the schools were closed at Wymondham, Stathern and Gaddesby - villages wide apart. There were very few cases in the first half of 1922, but an epidemic began in July which spread over the whole district, and lasted until early in 1913. In July 1912 the disease was prevalent at Wymondham and Waltham, and in September at Knossington. It had now become almost universal, and your Council made the disease notifiable and in the 4 months of October to January 31st. there were 208 cases notified. The chief places were Asfordby 98, Twyford 39, Somerby 34, Barsby 11, Thorpe Satchville 13, Ashby Folville 10, Gaddesby 7, Great Dalby 4. The main force of the epidemic in this year was spent in a limited area. I have no doubt all the other villages in that area had cases of measles; but we must remember that all parents do not employ a doctor to treat measles, and some people probably disregarded the notification order. In January 1913 only 11 cases were notified. In 1914 the disease appeared on the other side of the District in Scalford, Frisby, Waltham, Harby, Eaton, Saltby, Sproxton, Wymondham &c. and several schools were closed. In 1915 occasional cases only were notified in the first six months, but in the second six months it became epidemic and schools were closed at Grimstone, Scalford, Harby and Eaton, so that by January 1st. 1916 notification was again enforced for some months and 340 cases notified. The epidemic was severe and the number of notifications did not represent the true facts, because while some Doctors notified every case in a house, others only notified the first case, and some Parents neither employed a Doctor nor notified their cases. Care was taken to leave every known infected house disinfected, and it is believed that this helped to wipe out the disease. On the other hand, the epidemic may have declined, as some previous ones had done, because all susceptible persons had had it. In the latter part of 1917 cases occurred in Asfordby, Burton Lazars, Eaton, Freeby, Hose, Saltby, Sproxton, Stathern and Waltham, and in 1918 it again became epidemic and notifiable, and 318 cases were reported to me throughout the District. In 1919 I reported "a happy relief from serious outbreaks of epidemic disease". In 1920 measles occurred at Long Clawson, Harby, Garthorpe, where the schools were closed, and in some other Parishes. In 1921 the disease was again prevalent throughout the District; fewer cases in 1922, and several schools closed in both years. In 1923 it again became prevalent and schools were closed at Ab-Kettleby, Barsby, Branstone, Edmondthorpe, Great Dalby, Saltby and Stathern and cases in many other villages. In 1924 it was prevalent from the middle to the end of the year, schools being closed at Barsby, Buckminster, Garthorpe and Wymondham. In 1925 measles was prevalent at Asfordby where about 100 children were said to be infected with it early in

October. There were outbreaks in some other villages; in most places the number was proportionate to the population.

The periodicity of measles is due to the fact that an attack of measles does not confer life-long immunity; how long the immunity lasts is uncertain, but persons have been known to have this disease three or four times. Moreover, there are different strains of the measles germs, and an attack of measles from one strain does not confer immunity from an attack by another strain.

INFLUENZA. There were only three epidemics of influenza in the first half of the nineteenth century viz in 1830 to 1833, 1837, and 1847-8. There does not appear to have been another epidemic until the disease made its appearance late in 1889. I am able to give the dates of its reappearance in your District (1) In the centre of your District the first case occurred at Melton Mowbray on December 18th. 1889; thence it spread to Asfordby, Burton Lazars, Kirby Bellars, Frisby, Great Dalby and on the other side of the town to Thorpe Arnold, Freeby etc. (2) In the south of the District, the first case appeared at Twyford on December 20th. whence it spread to surrounding villages. (3) In the North-west it appeared at Upper Broughton on December 18th. Nether Broughton on December 23rd. Old Dalby January 1st. Long Clawson January 1st. Stathern 20th. and by February 1st. there were cases at Harby, Hose and Wycombe. (4) On the Eastern side it appeared at Eaton on December 30th. spreading rapidly to Eastwell and Branstone. The disease appeared first in villages having a clay subsoil. It did not show any tendency to cross the marlstone ridge until later and it was about three weeks before it appeared in Stathern and 4 weeks later before it appeared in Scalford, Holwell, Hose and Harby. (5) At Wymondham it appeared on December 30th. and spread thence to Sewstern, Buckminster, Sproxton, Stonesby, Waltham, Garthorpe, Saxby etc.

The disease affected people of every age and class. It produced remarkable depression, and was in many cases complicated with Bronchitis and Pneumonia or Pleurisy. About 75% of the inhabitants were attacked on a conservative estimate. It spread rapidly and speedily exhausted the number of people who were liable to it. By the end of March it had nearly died out. The death rate for 1889 was 12.8 per 1000 inhabitants, but in the first quarter of 1890 it rose to 27 per 1000 inhabitants, and the disease was indirectly the cause of death to many aged and delicate persons who died at a later date.

We have had numerous epidemics of influenza since then, many of which were comparatively mild. That of 1895 however was severe, and so was that of 1899-1900 which caused 10 deaths directly due to the disease, and some others by its complication with Pneumonia and Bronchitis in 1899 and 9 deaths in 1900; and so went on through various epidemics. Some other epidemics were important; in 1909 there were 9 deaths from influenza and 16 from all forms of Pneumonia; 1913 influenza 3 deaths, pneumonia 14,; 1915 influenza 2 deaths pneumonia all forms 21; 1916 influenza deaths 9, pneumonia 15; 1917 influenza deaths 7, pneumonia 9; 1918 influenza deaths 66, pneumonia 15; 1919 influenza 18, pneumonia 10; 1920 influenza deaths 4 and pneumonia 8; 1921 influenza deaths 8, pneumonia 5; 1922 influenza deaths 5, pneumonia 5; 1923 influenza deaths 4, pneumonia 9; 1924 influenza deaths 11, pneumonia 10; and 1925 influenza 10 deaths and pneumonia 10 deaths.

The epidemic of 1918 in June-July and November-December was the most severe and remarkable in my experience. Scarcely a family escaped it; five or six persons were attacked in a house in a few days. It was a very virulent type. It spreadly produced the greatest prostration and was unique in producing a peculiar tint of the skin which was almost heliotrope in colour. Many people died within 24 or 48 hours of its inception and the complication of pneumonia was fatal in a large percentage of cases.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER AND ALLIED DISEASES. In the year 1910 there was an outbreak of what was called "Spotted Fever". It began in June and lasted until October. The total number of cases was 37 and the deaths 4. The outbreak of this disease, so mysterious in its origin, caused a panic throughout your District, and a considerable loss of

business to the tradespeople, especially those who supply the hunting district. Persons travelling from other districts were forbidden to remain at certain hotels; commercial men found difficulty in gaining admission to particular business houses and some tradesmen refused to receive goods from any area in which a case was known to exist. The panic was unjustified by the state of affairs and after a few weeks passed away.

The outbreak occurred in an erratic manner, it being impossible to trace any connection between many of the cases,. The affected villages were Asfordby, Eastwell, Grimstone, Harby, Holwell, Hose, Long Clawson, Nether Broughton, Old Dalby, Stathern, Stonesby, Sysonby, Thorpe Arnold. The Local Government Board sent Dr. Farrar to investigate, and reported that some of them were genuine cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and some of them were cases of Poliomyelitis (i.e. Infantile Paralysis). It did not seem possible to discover the source of the infections, but it was believed that the sale of some old military garments, which were cut up for making hearth rugs was associated with the appearance of the early cases.

There has never been a great number of cases since; in fact all I can find from the records amount to 10 reports of Cerebro-Spinal fever or Meningitis, three or four of which afterwards proved to be tubercular meningitis, and one case which turned out to be tetanus. There have been three or four cases of Poliomyelitis two of whom died and two or three cases of encephalitis lethargica (commonly called "sleeping sickness".

<u>The means taken to prevent the spread of disease in 1925.</u> I have elsewhere given the date when notification was made compulsory, and the year when the Isolation Hospital was opened. When a disease included in the category of notifiable disease occurs, it is notified to me or the Sanitary Inspector. Steps are then taken to ensure the isolation of the Patient in the house or his immediate removal to hospital. The house is disinfected by spraying the rooms with formaldehyde solution, and for fumigation of the rooms by lamps vaporising formaldehyde tablets. Clothes are disinefted by placing them in suitable positions in the fumigated room. Blankets, bedding and such things, are submitted to super-heated steam in a disinfecting store left for that purpose at the Isolation Hospital. This however is not large enough to receive straw mattresses are destroyed by fire. The occupant of the house is instructed to give it a thorough "spring cleaning" and to whitewash or colour wash such rooms as are usually decorated in that way, and, in other houses, to strip off the paper from the walls. Another means of checking the progress of some outbreaks of disease is to close the village school, which is done, I believe, as a matter of routine when the attendance falls below a certain standard. I sometimes feel doubtful as to the thoroughness of the spring cleaning and especially of the turning out of boxes, chests of drawers and cupboards, because I have frequently traced a fresh outbreak of Scarlet Fever to the use of some article of clothing which has lain by since the previous outbreak of that disease. The use of preventive methods such as finding and treating the "carriers" of Diphtheria and some other diseases, has more recently been adopted, and is certainly bearing fruit. The prevention of the use of milk from a suspected source, of water from a doubtful well and the use of antitoxin as a preventative measure and the encouragement of vaccination and re-vaccination are among the methods in use of preventing the spread of disease. At times posters are fixed in various parts of the district or circulars are distributed throughout to point out the need and advantage of vaccination or other useful means of preventing the spread od disease.

The causes of sickness and invalidity during the period 1920 to 1925 are set out in the tables, showing the notifications of infectious diseases for 1925, and, in the longer list of notifications of infectious diseases and deaths therefrom, and in the vital statistics, as far as I have records of them, There has not been observed any characteristic feature of the district which renders the population of this district more susceptible to any disease than

is observed in other rural areas. On the whole Melton Mowbray Rural District is considered very healthy. The average population of the last 5 years was 14,682, and the death rate, when corrected by the factor supplied by the Registrar General is 8.8 per 1000 persons living.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1 9 2 5.

Age Periods.	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 over.	Removed to Hospital
Small Pox.	-								
Chicken Pox.	7		1	5	1				
Diphtheria.	9			6	2	1			9
Scarlet Fever.	41	2	17	19	3				35
Typhoid Fever.	-								
Cerebro Spinal) Mengitis)	1				1				1
Encepalitis) lethargica)	-								
Eryripelas.	8				1	1	4	2	
Ophthalmia) monstorum)	2	2							
Pneumonia Primary	11	1	2		1	4	2	1	
-Do- Secondary.	12			1	3	2	3	3	
Tuberculosis Lungs	8				3	4	1		
-Do- other parts.	4		1		3				
TOTAL.	102	5	21	30	18	12	10	6	45.

Of these admitted to the Isolation Hospital, 15 Scarlet Fever cases remained in the Institution on December 31st. 1925.

The pathological specimens sent for examination by Dr. J.A. Fairer were :-

Throat swabs for detection of Diphtheria.	24
Sputa for Tubercle bacille	26
Pleuritie fluid for tubercle bacille.	1
Urine for tubercle bacille	3
Urine for general analysis	5
Faeces for tubercle bacille	1
" for other abnormalities.	1
Hairs for ringworm.	6
Sewage and Water analysis	12
Total	79

TUBERCULOSIS IN 1925. The number of new cases was so small a table seems unnecessary. 3 males and 7 females were notified as having tubercular peritonitis and a child of 2 years had tubercular meningitis. There were 10 deaths from tuberculosis, namely 3 males and 7 females from pulmonary; and 1 female from tubercular mengitis.

The Tubercular cases on Register December 31st. 1925 were :- Pulmonary cases 97, including 47 males and 50 females; the non-pulmonary cases were 12, including 4 males and 8 females; Total 109.

The Institutions to which persons suffering from diseases of all kinds in your District are removed are as follows :-

(1) Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric, Encephalitis, Cerebro-Spinal Fever and similar diseases are removed to the Isolation Hospital at Melton Mowbray. This Institution was built in 1903 for the joint use of the Melton Mowbray Urban, The Melton Mowbray Rural and Belvoir Rural Councils. It was taken over in 1923 by the Leicestershire County Council.

(2) Small-Pox cases are removed to the special Hospital of the Leicestershire County Council at Syston.

(3) Tuberculous cases are sent to Sanatoria at Mosley, Hinckley, Coalville, Creaton and some of them to National Institutions at Ventnor, Midhurst etc.

(4) Maternity cases. When necessary, these cases are removed to the Poor Law Infirmary at Melton Mowbray.
(5) Children and all other persons needing special care or treatment may be, and often are, removed to the Poor Law Infirmary.
(6) Other Institutions to which access is obtained, and to which Patients are sent, are the special and general Hospitals of Leicester and Nottingham and the Leicester and Rutland County Asylum, now called the Mental Hospital.

THE SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE OF THE DISTRICT.

The history of the modern drainage of Rural areas can be said to have had scarcely a beginning prior to the passing of the Public Health Act of 1875, which included the consolidation of various previous sanitary system parallels that of other Rural areas. Prior to the passing of the Public Health Act 1875, a Sewer or drain had been laid by the Highway Board in a portion of some of the larger villages; indeed some of them had an origin more than sixty years ago. The drains put in a few places were some of them good ones, especially those laid in the seventies, but most of those put in before the eighties were far more ancient and of too primitive a type to be entitled to the term of sanitary drains. Nether Broughton drainage will serve as an example. In 1896 I reported to you "The Sewers of this village consist of various materials, and the channels are of various sizes. The greater part was laid down 40 or 50 years ago, and consist of bricks placed together without mortar or cement, and the size of the channel varies from 5 to 9 inches wide. About 1870 some of this ancient drain was taken up and replaced in parts by farmyard tile pipes and in other parts by 6 or 9 inch socket pipes. Some of the house drains of more recent date are 6 inch socket pipes and are joined to this Sewer. Stench traps are rare. Some house drains have an open iron grate, and some have a perforated wooden cover. There are five outlets from this village Sewer into different dykes; in two xxxxx places the outlets are on a higher level that the sewer, hence blockage of the drains is a frequent occurrence". I xxcondemned the entire drainage system of the village, and recommended that a plan be made out for a modern village drainage system, and the old Sewers and drains be taken up. As the village is large and straggling and the expense great, it has had to be done in sections as will be shown.

Another example, somewhat different in character, is that of Somerby. About the year 1870 a part of this village was drained with 9 inch sanitary pipes which took the sewage out of the village in the direction where the outfall is greatest, through the grounds of the Hall, then occupied by the late Col. Burnaby. A set of sewage tanks was built within 270 yards of the Hall and the effluent emptied into a brook, formed by the escape of water from a spring at Leesthorpe (where it xxx is drunk by the inhabitants). The brook runs near a footpath from Pickwell. In 1894-5 the sewage effluent fouled this beautiful stream and caused a considerable nuisance to the occupants of the Hall and those people who used the footpath. Thus a good source of water was spoilt, and a nuisance created. After several reports on the subject from me, and a Local Government Board enquiry, the existing sewage tanks were altered and new ones were erected in 1896 in a more suitable position.

A large amount of drains and sewers have been put into the ground in your District. The following particulars will be of interest to your Board, and show that 26,052 yards or nearly 15½ miles of drains consisting of glazed socket pipes of various dimensions have been laid.

ASFORDBY. A new drain was laid in a portion of the village in 1884 and 1886. Since that time the following new drains and extensions have been made, namely 73 yards of 9 inch pipes in 1889; 74 yards of 12 inch pipes in 1890; 90 yards of 9 inch in 1904; 70 yards in 1907; 27 yards in 1910. In 1921, 60 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid in the village; in the same year 493 yards of 9 inch pipes were laid for the drainage of houses on Asfordby Hill; and in 1923 another 50 yards of 6 inch pipes. In 1921 two acres of land were devoted to the purification of the Sewage xxxx from 76 houses on the Hill, and sewage tanks with an outfall sewer were constructed. In 1925 another group of 50

houses were erected on the Hill, and the drainage improved by laying down 250 yards more of 9 inch and 150 yards of 12 inch pipes. It is contemplated that new tanks and a filter bed will be constructed in the near future to cope with the increased volume of sewage. There are now two outfall works for sewage of the Hill and Valley, with septic tanks and drainage over-land, before it is carried away. The sewage of the Village runs into the river without previous treatment.

AB-KETTLEBY. There are no tanks; the sewage runs into dykes going to Welby Lane, Spring Lane and Melton Road. The only record I have is that 201 yards of 9 inch pipes were laid in 1889 and 1890. The village is moderately well drained.

ASHBY FOLVILLE. In 1888 and 1891 a total of 666 yards of 9 inch pipes were laid. The sewage goes into the river without any treatment.

BARSBY. In 1909 an old drain, consisting of horse-shoe tiles placed on bricks was replaced by 250 yards of glazed tile pipes, which go to a sewage dyke in the valley.

BRANSTONE. Some new drains were laid in 1885, another 1000 yards of pipes in 1889, and 80 yards of 9 inch pipes in 1900. The sewage goes into a septic tank and its effluent into a dyke.

BUCKMINSTER. In 1885 a sewage farm was made, whence the liquid runs into a dyke without further treatment. Extensions of 60 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid in 1890 and 26 yards of 12 inch pipes in 1894.

BURROUGH. There is a sewage tank, whence the effluent runs into a dyke. The following drain extensions were made, in 1891 - 60 yards of 9 inch and in 1910 - 150 yards of 9 inch pipes.

BURTON LAZARS. A new drain was made in 1886. with extensions or replacements as follows :- 1893 - 20 yards of 6 inch pipes; in 1921 - 160 yards of 6 inch pipes, and in 1923 - 20 yards of 6 inch pipes. The discharges go into dykes without any treatment.

COLD OVERTON. In 1897 - 45 yards, 1906 - 150 yards, and 1922 - 200 yards. All 6 inch pipes were laid. The discharges run into dykes without treatment.

COSTON. Drainage runs into Dykes.

EASTWELL. 185 yards of 9 inch pipes were laid in 1908, and 198 yards of 9 inch in 1915. The sewage goes into dykes without treatment.

EATON. Sewage passes into dykes and the brook without treatment. The following new drains were laid, viz : 80 yards of 9 inch in 1890 and 50 yards of 6 inch pipes in 1922.

EDMONDTHORPE. Drain was extended in 1884; the sewage goes to dykes.

FREEBY. Drain extension of 80 yards of 9 inch pipes was laid in 1900. The sewage goes into a dyke without treatment.

FRISBY. has a sewage tank, whence the effluent goes into the river. An extension of the drain was made in 1884; 70 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid in 1898, and 50 yards in 1908, and in 1915 a length of 45 yards of 24 inch sewer was made.

GADDESBY. also has a sewage tank which discharges into the river. A new village drain was made in 1886 with extensions as follows :- 164 yards of 9 inch in 1888 and 140 yards of 9 inch pipes in 1893.

GARTHORPE village was drained in 1894. The sewage goes to river without treatment.

GOADBY MARWOOD has a sewage tank, whence the effluent goes to a brook; 320 yards of new pipes were laid in 1909.

GREAT DALBY. A nuisance formerly occurred because the drains from many houses ran into the brook. In 1884-5 the existing sewer was extended; in 1889 several hundred yards of 12 inch pipes were laid along the bottom of the brook and the drains from the houses connected therewith. Sewage tanks were then also created, whence the effluent runs into the brook and dykes away from the village. In 1891 about 60 yards of 9 inch pipes were laid; and in 1900 another length of 100 yards put

GRIMSTON is now well drained. Many yards of pipes have been put in and some of them relaid. I have the following notes. In 1893 9 inch pipes were laid to length of 120 yards; 145 yards of 9 inch and 82 yards of 12 inch pipes in 1894; and 145 yards of 9 inch pipes relaid in 1897; 104 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid in 1898; 52 yards in 1908; 14 yards of 12 inch, 72 yards of 9 inch and 104 yards of 6 inch in 1914; 135 yards of 9 inch and 285 yards of 6 inch pipes in 1915. The sewage goes into dykes without treatment.

HARBY. In spite of much laying of drains and extensions thereof, the sewerage of this village cannot be considered very perfect, and in

parts it is in bad order. There is a sewage tank, whence the effluent goes into a dyke. I have the following record of drains laid: 1889 - 264 yards of 12 inch; 1890 - 490 yards of 12 inch; 1898 - 185 yards of 12 inch; 1900 - 100 yards of 12 inch; 1906 - 20 yards of 9 inch; 1907 - 150 yards of 9 inch; 1909 - 40 yards of 9 inch; 1911 - 130 yards of 18 inch; 1923 - 180 yards of 9 inch pipes.

HOBY. The sewage goes into dykes and the river, without treatment. A new drain was laid in 1886, with extensions and replacements as follows :- 1896 - 242 yards of 9 inch and 138 yards of 6 inch; 1898 - 40 yards of 9 inch; 1911 - 37 yards of 9 inch; 1916 - 65 yards of 6 inch; 1924 50 yards of 9 inch; 1925 - 55 yards of 6 inch pipes.

HOLWELL drains were laid as follows :- 1891 - 250 yards of 9 inch; 1897 - 154 yards of 9 inch; 1908 - 50 yards of 6 inch pipes. The sewage receives no treatment.

HOSE is provided with outfall works, the sewage going into a tank, whence the effluent flows through trenches in some land before it reaches the brook. The Sewer was extended in 1884 and the following drains xx laid since: 1888 - 88 yards of 12 inch; 1895 - 304 yards of 9 inch; 1900 - 100 yards of 9 inch pipes and in 1924 - 40 yards of 6 inch pipes.

KIRBY BELLARS. A new drain was laid in 1886, whence the sewage passes into the river without treatment.

KNOSSINGTON is fairly well drained, and 150 yards of new pipes were laid in 1908. The sewage goes to dykes without treatment.

LITTLE DALBY. was drained in stages from 1881 onwards. The effluent goes into sewage dykes.

LONG CLAWSON . In 1897 sewage tanks were made, whence the effluent goes into sewer xxxx dykes. Drains were laid in the following years:- 1889 - 30 yards of 6 inch and 262 yards of 9 inch; 1905 - 114 yards of 9 inch; 1907 - 213 yards of 9 inch; 1908 - 100 yards of 6 inch; 1915 - 470 yards of 6 inch and 409 yards of 9 inch pipes.

NETHER BROUGHTON. There has been considerable trouble over the drainage of this village. I have notes showing about 2000 yards of drains were laid or relaid at various times. Outfall works for the east end of the village were constructed in 1925; the remainder of the sewers discharge into dykes. In 1888 - 308 yards of pipes were laid; 1889 - 146 yards of 6 inch; 1890 - 100 yards of 12 inch; 1896 - 620 yards of 6 inch; 1897 - 222 yards of 6 inch; 1904 - 80 yards; 1905 - 30 yards; 1907 - 40 yards; 1908 - 75 yards; 1909 - 100 yards; 1924 - 75 yards of 9 inch; and 1925 - 500 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid.

UPPER BROUGHTON. is no longer a part of your District, but in 1889 we laid 70 yards of 12 inch pipes in that village.

OLD DALBY. In 1898 were laid 36 yards of 12 inch and 36 yards of 6 inch pipes; in 1908 - 800 yards of 6 inch; and in 1909 - 722 yards of 6 inch pipes; whence the sewage passes into dykes.

PICKWELL & LEESTHORPE. A sewage tank was made in 1900, whence the filtered effluent goes into the brook, after running through trenches in the earth.

RAGDALE. The sewage is discharged into a dyke without treatment.

ROTHERBY drains empty into a sewage dyke. It is recorded that 110 yards of 9 inch and 70 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid in 1894 as an extension to existing drains.

SALTBY was drained in 1883, about 1000 yards of pipes being laid, which discharge into a brook without treatment.

SAXBY was drained about 1880. The following extensions or replacements have been made viz :- 25 yards of 9 inch pipes in 1905, and 190 yards of 6 inch in 1923. The drains discharge their contents into river without treatment.

SAXELBY drains empty into a brook; 154 pxp yards of pipes were laid in 1888, and 36 yards in 1907.

SCALFORD was drained before 1880; an extension of the Sewer was made in 1884, and the following new pipes, partly to replace the old drains, have been laid;in 1896 - 30 yards of 12 inch pipes; 1900 - 60 yards of 6 inch; 1904 - 27 yards of 9 inch; 1907 - 35 yards; 1914 - 92 yards of 12 inch; 1915 - 80 yards of 6 inch pipes. There are sewage tanks, whence the effluent flows into a brook.

SEWSTERN. The main drainxx was laid as follows :- 1889 - 76 yards of 12 inch; 1890 - 140 yards of 12 inch; 1899 - 216 yards of 12 inch; 1913 - 150 yards of 6 inch pipes. The sewage goes to dykes without treatment.

SOMERBY . In 1884 the existing Sewer was extended; in 1885 - 170 yards of 9 inch pipes were laid, and in 1890 - 60 yards of 6 inch. In 1897 there was a further extension of pipes and erection of new outfall works with sewage tanks. In 1909 - 220 yards of 6 inch; 1910 - 210 yards of 6 inch; 1913 - 76 yards of 6 inch pipes were laid. There are now two outfall works, the sewage passing through septic tanks, and the effluent, after passing through trenches, is discharged into the Brook.

SPROXTON drains were laid as follows :- 1885 - 280 yards of 9 inch pipes, 1888 - 331 yards; 1904 - 100 yards; 1906 - 40 yards; 1909 - 120 yards; 1910 - 70 yards; 1911 - 97 yards of 9 inch; and 1915 - 113 yards of 12 inch pipes; whence the sewage goes into a brook without treatment.

STATHERN. The following extensions of the drain were made in 1898 - 85 yards of 9 inch pipes; 1906 - 100 yards; 1907 - 20 yards; 1909 - 270 yards; 1910 - 1916 yards. More recently, outfall works have been made including septic tanks, and the drainage of the effluent through trenches before it reaches the brook.

STONESBY. The existing Sewer was extended in 1884 and the following pipes laid since, viz: 1894 - 54 yards of 12 inch; 1897 - 110 yards of 9 inch; 1907 - 30 yards of 9 inch. There is a sewage tank whence the effluent goes into a brook.

SYSONBY. In Welby Lane, the house drains run into cesspools. The rest of the houses are scattered over the Parish.

THORPE SATCHVILLE, which formerly had troublous times over its drainage, is now provided with an outfall sewage plant, consisting of filter tanks, whence the effluent flows over land into a brook. I have the following records. In 1888 - 66 yards; 1889 - 220 yards; 1896 - 180 yards; 1899 - 200 yards; 1912 - 60 yards, all 6 inch pipes were laid. In 1893 a brick tunnel of 54 yards length was made.

TWYFORD also had troublesome times over its drainage, but has now got a septic tank for the sewage of one part of the village, while the effluent from all the other drains runs into the brook without treatment. I notice that pipes were laid thus : 1896 - 105 yards; 1900 - 150 yards; 1912 - 25 yards, all 6 inch pipes; in 1912 - 206 yards of 9 inch pipes were laid.

THORPE ARNOLD: 85 yards of new 6 inch pipes were laid in 1922. All drains empty into local dykes.

WALTHAM sewers were laid in 1882, 1884 and 1886. In 1925 a length of 120 yards of 6 inch pipes was laid. The effluent goes to local dykes without treatment.

WARTNABY has a septic tank and filter, whence the effluent goes into dykes. The drains were laid as follows :- 1885 - 154 yards; 1907 - 42 yards; 1912 - 220 yards of 9 inch pipes.

WELBY. Isolated houses. 50 yards of drain pipes were laid in 1908.

WYMONDHAM. A new sewer was laid through the village in 1884 at the cost of £75. Extensions were made as follows :- 1885 - 100 yards of 9 inch; 1889 - 60 yards of 6 inch; 1898 - 26 yards of 6 inch and 86 yards of 9 inch pipes; 1904 - 100 yards; 1905 - 270 yards; 1913 - 50 yards all of 6 inch pipes were laid. There also has been installed a septic tank, whence the effluent flows into dykes.

Various other matters of interest ought to be noticed. The river Eye has at various times been a public nuisance from Sysonby to Asfordby and beyond, and threatened at times to affect seriously the health of the people. The pollution was generally attributed to the effluent from the Sewage works at Sysonby belonging to the Urban District Council of Melton Mowbray. This stream was, in former times, a clear transparent river, containing an abundance of fish, but the condition of the river in 1894 was such that thousand of fish were killed. The dead fish taken from the surface of the water in a comparatively short distance numbered 580, and weighed from a few ounces to ten pounds each. On another occasion also about 1000 dead fish, in a state of decomposition, were taken from the surface of the river. The erection of a new sewage plant for the Urban District came under discussion in 1894, but a long time elapsed before anything was done. The nuisance was abated time after time, but nearly always recurred in a dry summer. During the last five years, the Melton Mowbray Urban District Council have re-arranged and re-constructed their sewage outfall works, and the effluent is now considered satisfactory,

the pollution of the river between Sysonby and Asfordby being not apparent.

The stream running through the village of Twyford is often polluted by sewage, and household refuse. This was particular so in 1889 when the pollution was associated with an outbreak of enteric Fever. I then recommended that the brook, where it passes through the village, should be converted into a covered sewer or culvert. This will have to be done someday, but nothing has been done to prevent the frequent recurrence of the nuisance up to now.

The village brook running through Great Dalby was formerly an almost constant nuisance, worse in the summer, because it received the sewage from the drains of numerous adjacent houses. As previously recorded, a main drain was put into the bottom of this brook to receive the household drains, and terminates in a septic filter tank, whence the effluent runs into the brook away from the village.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

In the centre of your District at a height of 250 feet above sea-level is the town of Melton Mowbray with an average rainfall of 26.5 inches during a period of 20 years, while in the nearby village of Thorpe Arnold the rainfall was 25.7 inches in ten years.

The water supply of the villages in your District is, for the most part, from wells varying from 10 to 20 feet deep, which draw their water from the surrounding earth. The quality of the water from these wells is in variable, and sometimes polluted. How far the majority of these waters would bear a chemical analysis and bacteriological examination is doubtful. Some years ago, I began a survey of the waters of the entire District, and would have completed it, but meeting with strong opposition from interested people, and abuse from some of them, I desisted from prosecuting my enquiries so closely, except when the actual outbreak of disease made it my bounden duty to persevere.

The Asfordby water supply has given rise to much discussion because of the small supply during drought. In a report thereon in November 1911, I divided the parish into districts for the purpose of my report of the water. (a) Asfordby Hill included 70 houses in the Parish of Asfordby and three in the Parish of Welby (there are more houses now - 1925). They are supplied by excellent water from a deep well in the grounds of the Stanton Ironworks Company. The supply is constant, reaches the houses in pipes and is controlled by taps. (b) Asfordby Valley included 54 houses (now more) supplied by water from shallow wells. The valley lies low and the houses are surrounded by small gardens or plots of land which received the household refuse for many years before a Scavenger was appointed. The water is drawn from the shallow wells sunk into these gardens and consequently the water is of doubtful quality, sometimes polluted, and in occasional instances positively bad. Matters have not inproved very much since, except in respect to the removal of refuse from the pail closets which is now done by a regular Scavenger, first recommended by me in the year 1900. (c) Asfordby Village. (1) From Melton End to Church Lane, including Main Street and New Street, had 110 houses with 33 wells. The water from 16 wells was considered good, 6 doubtful, and 11 bad. There were two public wells in addition; One in the main street condemned many years ago, the other in Church Lane, yielding a large supply of water usually of good quality. But the total supply of water in this part of the village was very inadequate. (2) From Church Lane to Frisby End of the village were 60 houses supplied by 22 wells. The water from 14 was considered good, 5 doubtful, 3 very bad, The water from the well in Pump Lane is plentiful and good as a rule, but the well has occasionally been polluted. It was, in my opinion, necessary that steps should be taken to improve the supply of water for the village and the valley. Little however has been done up to the present time, although the matter has been discussed time after time. Several measures have been proposed. There is no certain supply of water in the immediate vicinity of Asfordby, but there is an excellent spring at Ab-Kettleby, three miles away, which the village could be supplied by a pipe line, as the water would gravitate to Asfordby.

Great Dalby has a supply of water of very poor quality. In 1890 part of the village was supplied by tap water from a local spring

In 1891 I reported "There is bad water all over this village, most of the wells and some of the springs are polluted". There has been an improvement in the quality since then as the result of cleaning out wells and putting down new drains, but I cannot say the water supply as a whole is good.

Long Clawson also has many wells whose water is of duobtful quality. A new public well was suhk in the centre of the village in 1884, and a supply of good water provided for this portion of the village thereby. It is not, however, uniformly good, as the well has been polluted on more than one occasion, and it appears to have cleaned itself after being pumped dry. I have observed the same purification to occurr in a few other wells, but not in all polluted wells.

Stathern water supply is now very good. Formerly there were complaints about the water from wells on private property, but the Duke of Rutland supplied his tenants in the village with water from a spring in the Terrace Hill. In 1884, His Grace gave permission for an extension of this system to houses which did not belong to him, and in that year pipes were laid and taps applied at a cost of £55. The water is collected in a small reservoir and brought down the hill in a service pipe, and the flow through the village is controlled by a tap in the charge of one person. Extensions of this service were made in 1891 and in 1900 and now the greater part of the houses are supplied by tap water. It is an excellent water but is often somewhat coloured and deposits a sediment when it has been standing a few hours. This fault could be remidied by filtration through sand and gravel before it enters the village pipes.

Eastwell has a supply similar to that of Stathern, and in 1923 arrangements were made with the Duke for more water by the erection of an extra stand pipe and tap, the intention being to connect the water pipes of this village with the storage tanks at Eastwell Hall, and thereby assure an adequate ~~amplay~~ supply.

Scalford is partly supplied by private wells and partly by a spring which exudes many gallons per minute after supplying a portion of the water to the town of Melton Mowbray.

Buckminster has a public supply of water from a tower, whence it is delivered to the villagers in pipes controlled by taps.

Saltby has good water, part being derived from an admirable spring.

Grimston derives a great portion of its water from a public well, whence it is drawn by a force pump. A new elevator was put in the pump in 1924.

Hoby has 63 houses; 38 of them are supplied by 22 wells; the remainder has no direct supply of water and are dependent on the spring at Henson's and that in Cobbler's Close. Both of these are good potable waters as a rule, but occasionally they have been contaminated. A few years ago some of the wells proved to be contaminated and the use of the water was for a time forbidden.

Mr. Moorhouse, the Sanitary Inspector, has arranged the following notes.

WATER SUPPLY IN 1926.

Village.	Source.	Supply.	Remarks.
Ab-Kettleby.	Spring & Wells.	Good.	Never known to fail.
Asfordby.	(1) Shallow wells	Only fair.	Shortage at east end of village.and Valley.
-Do- Hill.	(2) Deep well	Excellent by service taps.	Good water to all houses controlled by taps.
Ashby Folville.	Wells.	Fair to good.	1 Public Pump, no shortage.
Barsby.	Wells.	Fair.	No shortage.
Bescaby.	Wells.	Good.	- Ditto -
Branston.	Wells.	Good.	-Do- 2 public pumps
Brentingby & Wyfordby.	Wells	Fair	No shortage complained of.
Brooksby.	Wells	Good.	- Ditto -
Broughton Nether.	Wells	Not plentiful.	Shortage in dry time
Buckminster	Spring.	Good.	Water is pumped to a water tower whence it runs to stand pipes established in 1925.

WATER SUPPLY IN 1928 (CONT'D)

Village.	Sourse.	Supply	Remarks.
Burrough.	Wells	Fair	2 Public wells,no shortage.
Burton Lazars.	Wells & Spring	Good.	No complaints of shortage.
Clawson.	Wells	Not plentiful.	3 public pumps,shortage is complained of in dry time.
Cold Overtoh.	Wells	Good.	No complaint of shortage.
Coston.	Wells & Spring.	Good.	- ditto -
Dalby Magna.	Wells.	Fair to good 2 public pumps.	Standpipe for public use.No complaints.
Dalby Parva.	Wells	Good.	No complaints.
Dalby on Wolds	Wells.	Fair.1 public pump.	Good supply near village, not laid on.
Eastwell.	Springs.	Good.	Standpipes laid throughout village.
Eaton.	Springs & Wells.	Good.	No complaints, 1 public pump.
Edmondthorpe.	Wells.	Good.	No complaints,2 public pumps.
Eye-Kettleby.	Wells.	Good.	- Ditto -
Freeby.	Wells.	Good.	-Do- 1 public pump.
Frisby.	Wells.	Fair to good.	-Do- 2 public pumps.
Gaddesby.	Wells	Fair.	Shortage in drought, 1 public pump.
Garthorpe.	Spring & Wells.	Good.	No complaints.
Goadby Marwood	Springs & Wells.	Good.	-Do- 1 public pump.
Grimston.	Wells & Spring	Fair to good.	-Do- 2 public pumps.
Harby.	Wells.	Fair.	Shortage in drought, 2 public pumps.
Hoby.	Springs & Wells.	Good.	No complaitns; 1 public pump.
Holwell.	Springs & Wells.	Abundant.	- Ditto -
Hose.	Wells.	Only fair.	Shortage in drought; 1 public pump.
Kirby Bellars.	Wells.	Fair.	No complaints.
Knossington.	Wells.	Fair to good.	-Do- 1 public pump.
Pickwell & Leesthorpe.	Wells.	Fair to good.	-Do- 1 public pump.
Ragdale	Wells.	Fair to good.	-Do-
Rotherby.	Wells.	Fair to good	-Do- 1 public pump.
Saltby.	Wells & Spring.	Fair to good.	-Do- 1 public pump and 2 standpipes.
Saxby.	Wells.	Fair to good.	-Do- 1 public pump.
Saxelby.	Wells.	Fair to good.	-Do- 1 public pump.
Scalford.	Wells & Spring.	Good & Abundant.	-Do-; public spring.
Sewstern	Wells	Good.	-Do- 1 public pump.
Shoby.	Wells & Spring.	Fair to good.	-Do-
Somerby	Wells	Good	Water laid on to large houses; no public pumps.
Sproxton.	Wells & Springs.	Good.	Several stand pipes in village
Stapleford.	Wells.	Fair to good	No complaints.
Stathern.	Spring & Wells.	Good	Public water supply with stand pipes in streets.
Stonesby.	Wells	Fair to good.	2 public pumps; no complaints.
Sysonby.	Wells.	Fair.	Supply in Welby Lane not plentiful.
Thorpe Arnold.	Wells.	Fair.	No complaints; 1 public pump.
Thorpe Satchville.	Wells	Fair to good.	-Do- 1 public pump.

WATER SUPPLY IN 1 9 2 5 (CONT'D)

Village.	Source.	Supply	Remarks.
Twyford.	Wells.	Good	Supply never fails.
Waltham.	Wells.	Good	3 Public pumps; no complaints.
Wartnaby.	Wells & Springs.	Good.	2 public pumps; no complaints.
Welby.	Wells.	Good	No complaints.
Wycomb & Chadwell.	Wells.	Fair to good.	2 Public Pumps.
Wymondham.	Wells.	Fair.	1 public pump, shortage in drought.

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT for 1925 shows :-

The total number of complaints received were	11
" " " " inspections made for all purposes	1302

" " " " notices served 96; informal 80; Statutory 16.
" " " " summonses and convictions. NIL.
Insanitary houses inspected 15; cleaned 15.
Smoke nuisances: Observations 6; nuisances abated 2.
Overcrowding: Houses inspected 28; nuisances abated 2.
Offensive accumilations inspected 28; nuisances abated 28.
Closet accomodation: Number in existence at end of year :-
(1) Privies 1037, (2) Pail Closets 1466 (3) W.C's. 760.
Privies (middens) (1) provided, nil; (2) old ones repaired 6.
(3) Converted into pails 4; converted to W.C's. nil.
Pails or Earth Closets (1) New provided 12; (2) Old ones converted to W.C's. 5; New water closets provided - 49.
Drainage and sewerage in 1925 - inspected 256, nuisances abated 41.
Cesspools cleaned and repaired 7; abolished, Nil.
Every village now has a system of sewers with which the drains of private houses are connected. There are not many cesspools in the district, and these are usually at houses away from the main sewers. Most of the sewers are of stone ware glazed pipes, with manholes for inspection.

DRAINS AND SEWERS LAID IN 5 YEARS, 1921 to 1925.

493 yards of 9 inch sewer and septic tank at Asfordby Hill in 1921.
160 yards 6 inch sewer at Burton Lazars in 1921.
60 yards 6 inch sewer at Asfordby in 1921.
200 yards 6 inch sewer at Cold Overton in 1922.
50 yards 6 inch sewer at Eaton in 1922.
60 yards 6 inch sewer at Thorpe Arnold in 1922.
180 yards 9 inch sewer at Harby in 1923.
190 yards 6 inch sewer at ~~[illegible]~~ Saxby in 1923.
56 yards 9 inch sewer at Nether Broughton in 1924
50 yards 9 inch sewer at Hoby in 1924.
40 yards 6 inch sewer at Hose in 1924.
600 yards 6 inch sewer with outfall works, septic tanks and land treatment for a portion of Nether Broughton in 1925.
55 yards 6 inch sewer at Hoby in 1925.
120 yards 6 inch sewer at Waltham in 1925.
250 yards 9 inch sewer at Asfordby Hill in 1925.
150 yards 12 inch sewer at Asfordby Hill in 1925.

New outfall works are likely to be made in the near future. Also there will soon be begun some new outfall owrks, with filter ~~tanks~~ tanks, for the Parish of Clawson. There are other new schemes in contemplation for Twyford, Burrough, Knossington, Eastwell, Welby Lane, and Nether Broughton.

SCAVENGING &c. Refuse is generally disposed of by removal of it to arable land or gardens where it is ploughed or dug in. There is no refuse destructor available. An increasing number of W.C's are being provided, especially in those villages where they are sewage outfall works. But the problem is acute in some places were there is insufficient ground available to dispose of the contents of pail closets. A number of chemical closets have been installed recently and appear

to be successful. In the Parish of Asfordby, the night soil is removed weekly from pail closets by a Scavenger who takes it to arable land. Several villages possess bunkers where old tins and broken crockery &c. are deposited, whence they are removed periodically and buried in disused pits.

CEMETERIES. A new cemetery was laid out in Scalford; an extension of the cemetery was made at Clawson and an extension of the Churchyard at Frisby; - all in 1925.

WATER SUPPLY. Samples analysed 17; condemned 11; Wells closed 4; Wells cleaned and repaired 9. A public supply was substituted for well water in 36 houses. There is a need for an improved supply of water for the east end of Asfordby village, Asfordby Valley, Clawson and Nether Broughton. The erevtion of a few stand pipes in the village of Scalford, where the supply is abundant, but not easily accessible to everybody, would be a great boon to the inhabitants. A statement of the water supply in every village prepared by Mr. Moorhouse is appended.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Houses inspected 68; infectious 79; houses disinfected 68 including 95 rooms; Schools disinfected 3 including 12 rooms. Arrangements for disinfection: Bedding is taken to the Isolation Hospital to be treated in the Disinfector by super-heated steam. Premises are sprayed with formaldehyde, fumigated by lamps which volatalize formalin tablets, and the paper is stripped from the walls when that is considered necessary.

LODGING HOUSES & CANAL BOATS - None.

OFFENSIVE TRADES. There is a Knacker's Yard at Stonesby.

FOOD SUPPLY. There were no seizures of meet or other food stuff and no prosecutions. One carcase was condemned for tuberculosis. Arrangements have been made with the Urban District Council of Melton Mowbray for the destruction of condemned meat in their refuse destructor, when such meat has to be disposed of.

Private Slaughter Houses.	1920.	Jany 1925.	Decr. 1925.
Registered.	17	23	23
Licensed.	-	-	1

In 1925, regulations for the inspection and better control of Slaughter Houses and meat supply came into force. The general condition of the slaughter houses is satisfactory. They are very clean. Inspections in 1925 of Slaughter Houses - 69; Contraventions of bye laws - 5. There were 49 inspections of meat during slaughtering; information is provided of the usual days for killing, and , as far as possible, the inspections are made on those days. The number of meat shops in the district is 25; there were no contraventions of rules for handling, storage or sale of meat.

Food, other than meat: Inspections of places where food is stored or sold-21. The existing powers of control are adequate; not contravention of regulations was found.

MILK SUPPLY. New Acts have been passed in the five years under review. Regulations were adopted and a Veterinary Inspector appointed under the provisions of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Orders 1885 to 1889 &c. and the milk and Dairies Amendment Act 1922.

Retail salesmen registered 259; inspections of their premises 125; contravention of the rules found in 51 cases; cleansing required in 43 cases, and structural or sanitary improvements in 8 cases.

Wholesale traders and producers of milk, registered 487. Premises inspected 362, during milking time 118. Contravention of regulations were found in 112 cases; cleansing required in 89, and structural or sanitary improvements in 23 establishments.

The number of Milch cows in the district was 8030. No samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination; and there were no legal proceedings.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) Order of 1923, no licences were issued, refused or withdrawn.

The Veterinary Inspector made 2723 inspections. Owing to several outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease in the District during the year 1925, the Rural District Council discontinued the inspection of cows to curtail the risk of spreading that disease by the Inspector. No cows were reported to be suffering from tuberculosis. When it is decided that cattle suffering from tuberculosis must be disposed of,

they are sent to be slaughted to Leicester.

FACTORY & WORKSHOPS ACT 1901. The total number of workshops, including bakehouses, registered in your District was 38; nuisances found and abated 5. The Bakehouses registered were 21; their sanitary condition was satisfactory and no nuisances found. The number of outworkers, chiefly menders or clippers of lace in your District were 6. No legal measures were necessary.

BYE-LAWS & REGULATIONS. Bye-laws with respect to the erection of new buildings were adopted on December 19th. 1901 and approved by the Local Government Board on February 4th. 1902. Regulations were made by your Council on January 18th. 1900 respecting the Dairies, Cowshops and Milkshops in the district.

A special investigation into the shortage of water in Asfordby valley and the east end of Asfordby was made during the year, and 16 owners of property were served with notices to provide an adequate supply of water for their tenants.

No Officer has been appointed under the Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act 1919; and no Officer has been appointed to act under the Diseases of Animals Acts 1894 - 1909, other than the Veterinary Inspector, whose chief duty is in connection with the milk supply.

HOUSING CONDITIONS FOR 5 YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31st. 1925.

Year.	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Population.	14619	14550	14650	14860	14730
General death rate per 1,000	11.08	11.27	10.78	12.44	8.09
Tuberculosis death rate per 1,000	0.342	0.287	0.75	0.60	0.67
Infantile mortality per 1,000 population	0.88	1.30	1.36	0.81	0.61
Infanitle mortality per 100 births	48.5	65.3	67.8	43.9	35.3
Dwelling houses.					
Total number	3525	3542	3546	3549	3627
Persons per house.	4.03	4.10	4.13	4.10	4.01
No.of working class houses	2620	2636	2643	2674	2712
Houses erected					
(a)By private persons	17	4	3	78	45
(b)New working class houses	17	4	3	31	38
(c)With State assistance			14	62	38
Unfit Dwelling Houses					
Houses inspected for defects.	164	187	126	152	210
-Do- recorded under Housing Regulations 1910 and 1925	164	187	126	152	210
Houses found not in all respects fit for human habitation	164	146	118	52	90
Seriously defective but could be made habitable	31	45	38	52	90
Defects remidied without formal notice	21	28	38	18	65
Action taken under Statutory powers after formal notice	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Closing Orders.	1			2	
Proceedings under Public Health Acts. Notices served in respect of defective houses.	31	3	5	52	90
Houses made fit for use after notice.	15	3	4	18	65
Proceedings under Housing Act 1925					NIL.

THE CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1925.

Deaths at various age periods.	All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65.	65 and over.
Enteric Fever.									
Small-Pox.									
Measles	1				1				
Scarlet Fever									
Whooping Cough.									
Diphtheria									
Influenza.	10				~~1~~	1	1		8
Encephalitis lethargica.									
Meningocial meningitis									
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system.	9					2	7		
Other Tuberculosis diseases	1					1			
Cancer.	17						2	8	7
Rheumatic Fever	1							1	
Diabetes									
Cerebral hœmorrhage	9							2	7
Heart Disease	22						1	9	12
Arteriosclerosis	7								7
Bronchitis	9							2	7
Pneumonia. All forms	10	3				2	2	1	2
Other respiratory diseases	4	2						1	1
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenam	-								
Diarrhœa under 2 yrs	-								
Appendicitis	-								
Cirrhosis of liver.	2						1	1	
Acute & chronic Nephritis	5					1	1	1	2
Puerperal sepsis	-								
Pregancy & parturition; accidents & diseases of :	1						1		
Premature birth, congenital debility, malformations &c.	5	4		1					
Suicide.	1								1
Deaths from violence	7		1		1		3	1	1
Other defined diseases	30				1		2	4	23.
TOTAL.	151	9	1	1	3	7	21	31	78.

VITAL STATISTICS OF MELTON MOWBRAY RURAL DISTRICT.

Year.	Population	BIRTHS		NETT DEATHS belonging to the District.			
		No.	Rate per 1,000 people	Under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 Births	All ages.	Rate per 1,000 people.
1881.	14734	446	30.00	47	100.00	241	16.35
1891	15141	434	28.73	64	145.10	286	18.88
1901	14865	388	26.10	31	79.9	216	14.5
1911	15271	322	21.10	21	65.4	175	11.4
1920	14485	327	22.5	10	32.7	142	9.8
1921	14619	268	18.3	13	48.5	162	11.08
1922	14550	291	20.0	19	65.3	164	11.28
1923	14654	280	19.1	18	67.8	158	10.78
1924	14860	273	18.3	12	43.9	185	12.44
1925	14730	255	17.3	9	35.3	151	8.09

I freely acknowledge my indebtedness to the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. E.C. Moorhouse, M.Inst M.& Cy E; A.R.S.I; for a vast amount of information used in the preparation of this Report.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

Wm. TIBBLES,

Medical Officer of Health.

April 27th. 1926.
119, Derby Road,
Parkside,
Nottingham.