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Contributors

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MELTON MOWBRAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the Year 1925.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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MELTON MOWBRAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

For the Year 1925.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health this Report is in some respects more comprehensive than has heretofore been customary, for it includes a retrospect of the past five years.

As this is but one of fifteen Reports which I am submitting to as many Authorities its size and scope are necessarily more curtailed than would be the case were I merely acting for a single District.

The subjects dealt with are systematized under the following six headings:-

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Housing.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

I. NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres 2,686

Population Census, 1921 9,187

" Estimated, 1925..... 9,862

Physical Features and General Character of the Area.

The town, which is situated in the North-East Section of Leicestershire, is built on undulating country with a fall towards the little river Eye an affluent of the Soar. The geological formation is Lower Lias, but part of the town near

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1907

By the Honorable the Governor

In accordance with the requirements of the Statute of

the State, Chapter 10, Section 1, of the Statutes of 1906

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REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1907

AND THE COMMISSION ON THE PART OF THE STATE

CHAPTER 10, SECTION 1, OF THE STATUTES OF 1906

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

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CHAPTER 10, SECTION 1, OF THE STATUTES OF 1906

the river is built on Alluvium and is liable to flooding, the last heavy flood, which occurred three years ago, involving great distress and heavy loss.

Social Conditions.

Melton Mowbray, being the premier hunting centre in England, has a large influx of population during the hunting season, a fact which should be borne in mind in the interpretation of the last, as compared with previous, census statistics. This ordinarily gives employment to a large number of stablemen and others, but the past few seasons have been greatly curtailed through Foot & Mouth Disease.

The town is widely known for its manufacture of pork-pies, an industry whose hygiene, which is for the most part excellent, has claimed our attention for many years. The other principal industries are a large hosiery factory and the manufacture of boots & shoes. A number of employees at the Asfordby Iron Works, which are over a mile from the town, also reside in Melton Mowbray.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Number of families or separate occupiers) of houses (1921)..... | 2,155 |
| Rateable Value..... | £43,292 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate..... | £173 |

Vital Statistics.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Births, legitimate - M. 85. F. 95. <u>Total</u> - | 180 |
| " illegitimate - " <u>6</u> " <u>6</u> " - | <u>12</u> |
| <u>Total:-</u> " <u>91</u> " <u>101</u> " - | <u>192</u> |
| Birth Rate | 19.4 |
| " " (1921 - 1925)..... | 21.4 |
| " " for England & Wales (1925) | 18.3 |
| Deaths - M. 55. F. 41. <u>Total</u> - | 96 |
| Death Rate | 9.7 |
| " " (1921 - 1925)..... | 10.8 |
| " " for England & Wales (1925) | 12.2 |

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Deaths of Infants under one yr. of age | 7 (1 being illegitimate) |
| Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 births..... | 36 |
| " " " (1921 - 1925)..... | 55 |
| " " " for Eng. & Wales (1925) .. | 75 |

Six per cent of the births during the past five years were illegitimate. It is satisfactory to record that the Death Rate and the Infant Mortality Rate for the five years are considerably below those of the country as a whole.

Causes of Death in 1925.

Civilians only.

| <u>Causes of Death.</u> | <u>Males.</u> | <u>Females.</u> |
|--|---------------|-----------------|
| <u>All Causes</u> | <u>55</u> | <u>41</u> |
| Measles | 1 | 1 |
| Influenza | 1 | 2 |
| Encephalitis Lethargica..... | - | 1 |
| Tuberculosis of respiratory system... | 5 | 2 |
| Other tuberculous diseases..... | 1 | - |
| Cancer, malignant disease..... | 8 | 11 |
| Cerebral haemorrhage etc..... | 2 | 5 |
| Heart disease..... | 6 | 3 |
| Arterio-sclerosis | 8 | 5 |
| Bronchitis | 4 | 1 |
| Pneumonia (all forms)..... | 1 | 1 |
| Other respiratory diseases..... | 3 | - |
| Diarrhoea &c.....(under 2 yrs.)..... | - | 1 |
| Appendicitis & Typhlitis..... | 1 | - |
| Acute and chronic nephritis..... | 1 | - |
| Puerperal sepsis..... | - | - |
| Other accidents & diseases of pregnancy and parturition. | - | 1 |
| Congenital debility & malformation, premature birth. | 2 | 3 |
| Suicide..... | 2 | - |
| Other deaths from violence..... | 1 | 1 |
| Other defined diseases..... | 8 | 3 |
| Causes ill-defined or unknown..... | - | - |

Percent of Infants under one yr. of age 7.1 percent
 Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births 36
 " (1921 - 1925) 32
 " for Mex. & Wales (1925) .. 32

The per cent of the births during the past five years were illegitimate. It is satisfactory to record that the death rate and the Infant Mortality Rate for the five years are comparatively low those of the country as a whole.

Cause of Death in 1925

Civilians only

| <u>Cause of Death</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| All causes | 37 | 42 |
| Heart | 1 | 1 |
| Influenza | 2 | 2 |
| Intestinal | - | 1 |
| Diarrhoea | 2 | 2 |
| Other abdominal diseases | 1 | - |
| Cancer, malignant diseases | 8 | 11 |
| Cerebral hemorrhage etc. | 2 | 2 |
| Heart disease | 4 | 3 |
| Arterio-sclerosis | 8 | 2 |
| Ironcholia | 4 | 1 |
| Pneumonia (all forms) | 1 | 1 |
| Other respiratory diseases | 3 | - |
| Diarrhoea etc. (under 2 yrs.) .. | - | 1 |
| Appendicitis & typhoid | - | - |
| Acute and chronic nephritis .. | 1 | - |
| Pharyngeal cancer | - | - |
| Other diseases & diseases of the nervous and reproductive | - | 1 |
| Constitutional weakness & malnutrition primarily | 2 | 2 |
| Unlabeled | 1 | 2 |
| Other diseases from violence .. | 1 | 1 |
| Other defined diseases | 6 | 1 |
| Cause ill-defined or unknown .. | - | - |

II. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority or County Council:-

Tuberculosis, Maternity and Children's hospital accommodation are controlled by the County Council and the matter is dealt with comprehensively in the County Report.

Fever:- There are eight Isolation Hospitals with a total of 85 beds, controlled by the Leicestershire Isolation Hospitals' Committee. Patients are sent to such hospitals as have beds available for the disease from which they are suffering, the large majority from this District going to the Melton Mowbray Isolation Hospital.

Small Pox:- There are two hospitals provided for the County as a whole.

Ambulance Facilities:-

- (a) For Infectious Cases Motor ambulances are provided in connection with the Isolation Hospitals.
- (b) For Non-infectious Cases and Accident. None under the District Council. The Leicester Royal Infirmary and other voluntary Organizations provide the necessary facilities.

Clinics and Treatment Centres:- All under the County Council.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:-

[The Medical Officer of Health acts for this and fourteen other Districts in four counties. The Combined Districts cover 500 square miles and have a population of about 120,000. No office or clerical staff or provision for travelling is provided.] The Sanitary Inspector is also District Surveyor. Both officers devote the whole of their time to their official duties.

Professional Nursing in the Home:-

The County Council's Health Visitors and School Nurses

II. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE ACT

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority

or County Council:-

1. General Provisions of the Act

are controlled by the County Council and the matter is dealt

with comprehensively in the County Council.

2. There are also included hospitals with a total of

50 beds, controlled by the Local Authority, including

hospitals, and are used to treat patients who have been

admitted to the hospital from the County Council.

These hospitals are under the control of the County Council.

3. There are also included hospitals with a total of

50 beds, controlled by the Local Authority, including

hospitals, and are used to treat patients who have been

admitted to the hospital from the County Council.

4. There are also included hospitals with a total of

50 beds, controlled by the Local Authority, including

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admitted to the hospital from the County Council.

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50 beds, controlled by the Local Authority, including

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admitted to the hospital from the County Council.

6. There are also included hospitals with a total of

50 beds, controlled by the Local Authority, including

hospitals, and are used to treat patients who have been

admitted to the hospital from the County Council.

7. There are also included hospitals with a total of

50 beds, controlled by the Local Authority, including

hospitals, and are used to treat patients who have been

admitted to the hospital from the County Council.

8. There are also included hospitals with a total of

visit cases in this District. There is also a District Nursing Association but this is entirely supported voluntarily.

Midwives:- The supervision of Midwives and the administrative control of Maternity and Child Welfare are vested in the County Council.

The Melton Memorial Hospital is a voluntary Institution with 26 beds, 18 of which are in the Free Wards.

Chemical Work:- Analyses of foods and drugs are conducted by the County Analyst. Sewage effluents are analysed at the County Laboratory.

Legislation in Force:- There are no Local Acts or special Local Orders. The general Adoptive Acts in force in the District are as follows:-

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1890, Parts II & III

Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1907, Parts II, & III (except Sects. 39 to 42) IV and V.

New Building Bye-Laws have also been adopted.

III. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The public water supply, which is laid on throughout the town, only outlying properties being supplied by wells, is derived from sources at Scalford, some $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant. The later analytical and bacteriological reports have been very satisfactory pointing to a high degree of organic purity. The water is of some 24° of hardness, most of which is removable by boiling, and would readily lend itself to artificial softening. Owing chiefly to the shortness and low pressure after periods of dry weather I had occasion in former Reports to direct attention to the desirability of your having recourse to the Derwent supply, more especially as the main would have passed through, or near to, several villages in the Barrow-on-Soar

and Melton Mowbray Rural Districts which are themselves in need of a public supply.

The cost of obtaining the Derwent supply was, however, considered prohibitive and improvements in pumping were carried out in 1921. In 1925 a comprehensive scheme, including the provision of a million gallon service reservoir, the installation of additional pumping plant with storage tanks and the erection of a high level tank was completed. These additional provisions should go far towards solving shortage difficulties for many years to come.

I would direct attention to the advantages of acquiring complete control over the catchment area. The possibilities of contamination, however remote, cannot be too carefully guarded against.

Rivers and Streams:-

Within the past five years the construction of new sewers and the completion of extensive improvements at the outfall works have resulted in the obtaining of an excellent sewage effluent.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The town is for the most part well drained. Extensive improvements involving the relaying of large sections of some of the principal sewers have been completed within the five years. Running sand, which had formerly gained access to some of the replaced sewers, has as a consequence been effectually excluded from the outfall works and extensive pollution of sub-soil has been rectified. In 1924 the Surveyor reported that the expenditure to date on this work had exceeded £18,000. I should like, however, to be able to record a comparable degree of improvement in the general drainage of house properties. The Inspector reports twenty inspections during the year and the abatement of twelve nuisances.

and Nelson Morley Rural Districts which are themselves in

need of a public supply.

The cost of obtaining the current supply was, however,

considered prohibitive and improvements in mains were carried

out in 1911. In 1912 a comprehensive scheme, including the

provision of a public supply reservoir, the instal-

lation of additional pumping plant with storage tanks and the

erection of a high level tank was completed. These additional

provisions should go far towards relieving shortage difficulties

for many years to come.

I would draw attention to the advantages of supplying

electricity central over the district area. The possibilities

of centralisation, however remote, cannot be too carefully consid-

ered.

Water and Sewerage

During the past five years the construction of new works

and the completion of extensive improvements at the outfall

works have resulted in the obtaining of an efficient supply

of water.

Drainage and Sewerage

The town is for the most part well drained. Extensive

improvements involving the re-laying of large sections of main

of the principal sewers have been completed within the five

years. Running water, which has formerly gained access to some

of the principal sewers, has as a consequence been effectively

excluded from the outfall works and extensive pollution of the

well has been avoided. In 1914 the sewerage system was

the expenditure to date on the town has exceeded £10,000. It

should like, however, to be able to erect a comparable scheme

of improvement in the central drainage of house properties.

The Inspector reports that the drainage during the year has

the payment of twelve million.

Closet accommodation:-

The vast majority of the houses are provided with cistern-flushed water-closets, the numbers of each type of accommodation at the end of 1925 being as follows:-

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Privies | 4 |
| Pail closets | 4 |
| Waterclosets..... | 2,293 |

During the year two privies and two pails were converted to water-closets. In 1920 there were nine of the former and eleven of the latter the headway in conversions having been made prior to that year.

Scavenging:-

Most of the houses are provided with movable ashbins. During the year ten ashpits or fixed bins were replaced by movable receptacles, the number converted during the five years being 140.

Refuse is collected by direct labour and is removed in motor lorries. A charge of five shillings a load is made for collecting trade refuse, but no charge is made for removing refuse from bins placed outside shops.

The Refuse destructor is situated about half a mile from the centre of the town. Various improvements in connection with it have been completed during the past five years.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area:-

The Sanitary Inspector submits the following classified statement:-

| | |
|---|-----|
| Total No. of complaints received during the year..... | 38 |
| " " " inspections made for all purposes..... | 544 |
| " " " notices served - 25. Informal - 25. Statutory - 0 | |
| " " " summonses issued - nil. | |

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Insanitary houses (Public Health Act 1875) | No. inspected - 30. No. cleaned - 30 |
|---|--------------------------------------|

Overcrowding:-

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| No. of houses inspected - 12. | Nuisances abated - nil |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|

Offensive accumulations:-

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| No. inspected - 2. | Nuisances abated - 2. |
|--------------------|-----------------------|

Further details of Sanitary Inspections are included under their relevant headings.

Smoke Abatement:-

The town is remarkably free from smoke nuisance and no complaints under this heading have come to our knowledge.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations:-

There are two Common Lodging Houses in the District both of which are now tolerably well kept.

No Offensive Trade is established and there is no Canal within the area.

Schools:-

The public water supply is laid on to all the schools. The Junior Schools are modern and well maintained. The Senior Elementary Schools are, however, old buildings and although as sanitary as is compatible with their age they are far from reaching our present-day standards of hygiene. Some of the classrooms are moreover far too crowded and I am of opinion that the present proposals for building a new Council School for boys should be sanctioned without further procrastination. The necessity for this school and for the accommodation which its completion would release in the existing schools grows more accentuated every year.

IV. HOUSING.

I. General Housing Conditions:-

For the most part satisfactory. There is, however, a quatum of old, dilapidated or insanitary property which is far too slowly being dealt with, including about 20 houses which can be correctly classified as unfit and approximately 50 which are not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.

In 1921 20 "A" type (non-parlour) houses, 20 "B" type (parlour) houses and 4 "B4" type (parlour and 4 bedrooms) houses were erected and in 1925 the Council decided to build

Further details of sanitary inspection are included
under their respective headings:

Public Buildings:-

The town is remarkably free from smoke nuisance and no
complaints under this heading have come to our knowledge.

Factories and Establishments which may be controlled by the
Municipal Corporation:-

There are two common looking houses in the District of
of which are now relatively well kept.
No offensive trade is established and there is no canal
within the area.

Education:-

The public water supply is laid on to all the schools.
The primary schools are modern and well maintained. The District
Elementary schools are, however, old buildings and almost all
dilapidated as is evidenced by their state and the fact that
and are present-day standards of hygiene. In some of the schools
rooms are reserved for the use of the school and the
present proposals for building a new primary school for boys
should be considered without further delay. The
necessity for this school and for the reconstruction of the
school would result in the school being a modern
accommodated every year.

IV. HOUSING

1. General Housing Statistics:-

For the past few years, there has been a
growth of old, dilapidated or insanitary dwellings which
the town is now facing with a population of about 20,000
which can be correctly classified as slums and insanitary
to which are not in all respects satisfactory for habitation.
In 1921 20 "A" type (one-bedroom) houses, 20 "B" type
(two-bedroom) houses and 4 "C" type (three-bedroom) houses
houses were erected and in 1922 the Council decided to build

a further 20 houses and 10 bungalows. These, together with 16 subsidy houses on the Council's land, are nearing completion and 30 other subsidy houses are being built at the East end of the town. There is still space on the Council's land for eight houses.

The total number of houses completed during the past five years is 172, made up as follows:- Council houses 64, Subsidy houses 48, other houses 60.

II. Overcrowding:-

Although building during the past five years has gained on the estimated increase in the population there are probably some sixty houses in the town which should be classified as overcrowded. Instances of accentuated overcrowding are, however, relatively few.

III. Fitness of Houses.

The general standard in the newer parts of the town is quite satisfactory. Among the older properties there are, however, the accumulated arrears in routine improvements which lead to a by no means inconsiderable percentage of defective and insanitary premises. The latter must be dealt with comprehensively if their general fitness and habitability are to be raised to the accepted standards of modern hygiene and comfort. Although there is nothing which I would schedule as an Unhealthy Area, that is an area demanding demolition and rebuilding, there are groups of houses sadly in need of re-conditioning. In coping with such conditions any amendment of the law which would sanction a subsidy in aid of development and re-modelling or internal modernization would be of incalculable advantage. The average owner cannot afford the necessary capital outlay for work of this nature.

1925.

No. of new houses erected during the year:-

(a) Total..... 40

- (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts
 (1) By the Local Authority..... 14
 (2) By other bodies or persons..... 26

Unfit Dwelling-houses:-

1. Inspection. (1) Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). 30
 (2) No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. nil
 (3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. 20
 (4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. appx. 50
2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.
 No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 30
3. Action under Statutory Powers.
 - (A) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act 1925.
 1. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. 20
 2. No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
 - (a) by owners. 20
 - (b) by Local Authority in deft. of owners -
 3. No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close. nil
 - (B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts. nil
 - (C) Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 & 15 of the Housing Act 1925. nil

It will be observed that no records of inspections have been entered in the Housing Register. The keeping of the Register has been too long in abeyance. I am, therefore, glad to be able to report that it has been resumed during the current year, that some 200 houses have already been inspected and recorded and that steps are being taken to secure such neces-

sary improvements as are at present practicable. There is a great deal of lee-way to be made up. There is enough outstanding to keep a housing inspector fully occupied for a long time to come. Frankly I am not satisfied with the manner in which a number of the houses are kept and maintained. A dirty tenant in an ill-conditioned house which an owner is reluctant to renovate creates a vicious circle. Such conditions call for frequent inspection with insistence on such measure of cleanliness as can be secured. I am of opinion, myself, that the law should be amended so as to ear-mark a proportion of the rent for periodic lime-washing, distempering, painting and papering. In the event of an owner's default there should be some simple machinery enabling a Sanitary Authority to do the work and charge him with it. In the event of a tenant's default in keeping the premises clean there should be analogous powers and also penalties. The latter should be exemplary in respect of those incorrigibles who appear to be congenitally incapable of keeping either their premises or their families in anything but a filthy condition. The vast majority of such cases are due to drink.

V. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Throughout most of the Leicestershire Districts for which I am Health Officer the supervision of milk supplies has been greatly simplified by the bacteriological examination of samples. These examinations, which are conducted at the County Laboratory, have contributed more than any other factor to raising the standard of cleanliness in milk production, for they reveal with unerring accuracy the precise degree of contamination, whether by manure or otherwise, to which samples are subjected.

I am glad to be able to report that the submission of

any improvement as are at present proposed. There is a
great deal of way to be made up. There is enough circum-
stance to keep a honest investigator fully occupied for a long time
to come. I am not satisfied with the present situation
a number of the houses are kept and maintained. A large
and in an ill-maintained house which is in a
to provide a suitable situation. The committee will
investigation into the conditions of such houses of
houses as are secured. I am of opinion, however, that the
law should be amended so as to secure a proportion of the
rent for periodic time-keeping, inspection, painting and
repairs. In the event of an owner's default there should be
some simple machinery whereby a sanitary authority or the
work and charge him with it. In the event of a tenant's de-
fault in keeping the premises clean there should be similar
powers and also penalties. The latter should be necessary in
respect of those tenements where the agent is to be responsible
inoperative of keeping clean their premises or their families
infected with a filthy condition. The sanitary authority
cases are due to drink.

1. IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF HOUSING

With respect to the improvement of housing
The present state of the housing situation in the
I am aware of the importance of this question and have
greatly simplified the administrative arrangements of housing.
These arrangements, which are conducted at the County Council,
have constituted more than any other factor in reducing the stan-
dard of cleanliness in this house too, but they have not
sufficiently the degree of improvement, however
by means of other means, to which houses are subjected.
I am glad to be able to report that the situation of

samples from this District has now commenced. Bearing in mind the very small charge to the Council for these examinations, only half-a-crown per sample, I trust that frequent samples will be submitted, more especially from those supplies which are found at the outset to be unsatisfactory. As an example of what may be achieved by systematic and helpful inspection combined with the loyal co-operation of Producers, I would cite the case of the Lutterworth Rural District where 37 out of 48 samples taken last year reached or greatly exceeded Grade "A" standard, notwithstanding the fact that none of these samples was so designated. Such results show that it is not unreasonable to ask that all milk sold to the public should reach Grade "A" standard of purity, though not necessarily certified as such.

Owing to the prevalence of Foot & Mouth Disease the systematic Veterinary Inspection of milch cows was temporarily suspended. The importance of these examinations, more especially in respect of Tuberculosis of the udder, will best be realized when it is borne in mind that many of the cases of surgical tuberculosis in young children are of bovine origin, the bacillus being ingested with the cow's milk to which it most commonly gains access from a tuberculous udder.

The Sanitary Inspector submits the following particulars of inspections during the year:-

| | | |
|---|---|-----|
| Retail Purveyors. | (a) Register - No. on | 16 |
| | (b) Premises - Total No. of inspections | 64 |
| | No. of contraventions found | nil |
| | No. found to require | |
| | (a) Cleansing | nil |
| | (b) Structural or san. imprs. | nil |
| <u>Wholesale Traders</u> <u>& Producers.</u> | (a) Register - No. on | 4 |
| | (b) Premises - No. of inspections | |
| | (1) Total | 16 |
| | (2) During milking time | nil |
| | No. found to require | |
| | (1) Cleansing | nil |
| | (2) Structural or san. imprs. | " |

No. of samples of milk taken for Bacteriological exam. nil
 Total No. of milch cows in District - 100
 Legal proceedings - nil.

If clean milk is to be assured it is necessary that frequent inspections should be made during milking time. The provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, which is now in operation make this essential.

Meat.

There is a Public Slaughter House in the Market Place where inspections are made regularly at time of slaughter. This is of course well maintained. The private slaughter houses are also kept satisfactorily. There are eight of the latter on the Register the same number as in 1920. Some of them are rather near to dwelling-houses and on sanitary grounds as well as for simplifying supervision it is to be hoped that they will be gradually eliminated. Forty-eight inspections were made during the year, but no contraventions are reported. One tuberculous carcase was condemned.

Sixty inspections of meat shops, stores etc. were completed during the year. None but minor contraventions were observed, attention being directed where necessary to the requirements as to transport and handling.

A meat-stall at the weekly market has been frequently inspected and is kept properly screened.

Other Foods.

Bakchouses, of which there are 17, have been regularly inspected and are on the whole very well kept. Only two contraventions as to cleanliness are recorded.

The manufacture of pork-pies for which the town is so well known is conducted under strictly hygienic conditions. Experience has taught those engaged in it that an integral part of the excellent technique which has been evolved must be strict cleanliness. The public appreciation of these pies is, moreover, in large measure due to the first-class quality of the young pigs which are slaughtered for their manufacture. At one factory I have, however, had repeated occasion to direct attention to untidiness & accumulation of bones at the rear of the premises.

It is also noted that the
investigation should be made during the
period of the Milk and Butter Order, which is now in effect
and also the Milk and Butter Order.

There is a Public Health Officer in the North West
whose investigations are made regularly at times of inspection.
This is of course well known. The fact of this
house is also well established. There are also of the
latter on the North West the same number as in 1930. Some of
them are rather near to dwelling-houses and on certain grounds
of which no investigation is made as to be made that
they will be gradually eliminated. Forty-eight investigations
were made during the year, but no observations are reported.
The investigation of these was continued.

Thirty investigations of these shops, which were made
during the year. When the investigation was made
observed, attention being directed to the necessity of the
regulations as to transport and handling.
A cross-section of the weekly market was made during the
period and is kept properly recorded.

Other Notes

Investigation, on which it was 17, has been reported
investigation was made on the whole very well kept. Only the non-
investigation as to cleanliness was reported.
The investigation of the shops for which the year is to be
known as a general and more detailed investigation. The
investigation of these shops showed that an important part of
the investigation of these shops was made and reported that the
cleanliness. The public attention of these shops is, however,
in large measure due to the fact that the quality of the goods
which are sold is of high standard. The fact that the
investigation, however, has reported that the investigation
to maintain a high standard of goods at the time of the year.

Stilton cheeses, which are really Leicestershire cheeses, are made in large quantities, chiefly at one factory, strictly hygienic conditions being observed.

In previous years I have had to certify a number of consignments of potted meat for export to the Argentine and Canada. This trade appears, however, to have ceased.

VI. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During 1925, 184 inspections were made of 108 houses in which infectious disease had been reported. One hundred and eight houses and four school-rooms were disinfected, bedding where necessary being removed to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection. In dealing with the more common infectious diseases - notably Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria - the value of steam-disinfection is, however, greatly over-rated and is now abandoned in all save special circumstances in most of the Districts with which I have to deal.

The notified cases of Infectious Disease were as follows:-

| | Cases. | Removed to Hospital | Deaths. |
|-----------------------------|--------|---------------------|---------|
| Scarlet Fever..... | 39 | 32 | - |
| Diphtheria..... | 16 | 16 | - |
| Erysipelas..... | 7 | - | - |
| Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.. | 1 | - | - |
| Encephalitis Lethargica.... | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Chicken Pox..... | 22 | - | - |
| Pneumonia..... | 53 | - | 2 |
| Puerperal Fever..... | 2 | - | - |
| Respiratory Tuberculosis... | 13 | - | 7 |
| Other forms of " | 3 | - | 1 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum..... | 2 | - | - |

Chicken Pox had been made notifiable in 1924 when Small Pox prevailed. It ceased to be compulsorily notifiable in 1925.

Written changes, which are really laboratory changes, are made in large quantities, chiefly at the factory, and the laboratory is left to observe.

In previous years I have had to verify a number of statements of bottled meat for export to the Argentine and Canada. This year, however, no such work has been done.

II. BOTTLED MEAT AND OTHERS, 1914-1915

During 1914, 1915 inspections were made of 100 bottles of bottled meat, which included 100 bottles of beef, 100 bottles of mutton, and 100 bottles of lamb. The results of these inspections are given in the following table. The results of the inspections of the bottled meat are given in the following table. The results of the inspections of the bottled meat are given in the following table.

The bottled meat of 1914-1915 was as follows:

| Kind of Meat | Number of Bottles | Number of Bottles Inspected | Number of Bottles Found Defective |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Beef | 100 | 100 | 10 |
| Mutton | 100 | 100 | 10 |
| Lamb | 100 | 100 | 10 |
| Other | 100 | 100 | 10 |
| Total | 400 | 400 | 40 |

It is seen from the above that the bottled meat of 1914-1915 was of a high standard of quality.

One fatal case of Respiratory Tuberculosis had not been duly notified.

The cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were not severe, both patients recovering with vision unimpaired.

The Tuberculosis cases and deaths are classified as follows:-

| Age-Periods. | New Cases. | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|----|--------------|----|-------------|----|--------------|----|
| | Respiratory | | Other forms. | | Respiratory | | Other forms. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 1 and under 5 yrs. | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 " " 10 " | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10 " " 15 " | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 " " 20 " | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| 20 " " 25 " | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 " " 35 " | 1 | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | - | - |
| 35 " " 45 " | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| 45 " " 55 " | 1 | 1 | - | - | 2 | - | - | - |
| 55 " " 65 " | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals:- | 6 | 7 | 3 | - | 5 | 2 | 1 | - |

The following examinations were made at the County Council's bacteriological laboratory:-

| | No. |
|--|------------|
| Throat swabs for Diphtheria | 93 |
| Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli..... | 62 |
| Blood for Wassermann Tests..... | 28 |
| Hairs for Ringworm (collected by School Nurses) | 22 |
| Throat swabs for Meningococci..... | 9 |
| Cerebro Spinal Fluid for Meningococci. | 4 |
| Sewage & Water Analyses..... | 2 |
| Widal's Test for Typhoid Fever..... | 2 |
| Films for Gonococci..... | 2 |
| Urine (General & Bacteriological)..... | 2 |
| Blood Culture..... | 1 |
| <u>Total:-</u> | <u>227</u> |

In addition the following were received from Melton Isolation Hospital:-

One fatal case of Respiratory Infection had not been
 only hospital. The cause of Septicemia was not definite, both
 patients recovered with minor complications.
 The Septicemia cases and deaths are classified as follows:-

| Age-Period | Respiratory Infection | | | | | | Other Infection | | | Total |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----------------|----|----|-------|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | |
| 1 and under 5 yrs. | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| 5 " " 10 " | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 10 " " 15 " | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| 15 " " 20 " | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| 20 " " 25 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 " " 30 " | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| 30 " " 35 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35 " " 40 " | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| 40 " " 45 " | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| 45 " " 50 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 50 " " 55 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55 " " 60 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 60 " " 65 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 " " 70 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 70 " " 75 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 75 " " 80 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 80 " " 85 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 85 " " 90 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 90 " " 95 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 95 " " 100 " | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 6 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 13 |

The following examinations were made at the County General
 all's pathological laboratory:-

| | |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| 81 | Throat swab for Diphtheria |
| 82 | Throat for Streptococcus |
| 83 | Wound for Streptococcus |
| 84 | Wound for Diphtheria |
| 85 | Wound for Staphylococcus |
| 86 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 87 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 88 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 89 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 90 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 91 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 92 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 93 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 94 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 95 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 96 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 97 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 98 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 99 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |
| 100 | Throat swab for Meningococcus |

In addition the following were received from Nelson
 Isolation Hospital:-

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Throat swabs for Diphtheria..... | 44 |
| Widal's Test for Typhoid Fever..... | 2 |
| Faeces for Bacillus Typhosus..... | 2 |
| Throat swabs for Meningococci..... | <u>2</u> |

Total:- 50

I now submit a synopsis of cases of Infectious diseases notified during each of the past five years:-

| Disease. | 1921 | /22 | /23 | /24 | /25 | Total | Removed to Hos. | Deaths. |
|-----------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----------------|---------|
| Small Pox | - | - | - | 54 | - | 54 | 52 | - |
| Chicken Pox | - | - | - | 5 | 22 | 27 | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 11 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 39 | 66 | 59 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 8 | 14 | 2 | 8 | 16 | 48 | 48 | 1 |
| Enteric Fever | 2 | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 | - |
| Puerperal Fever | 1 | - | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | - |
| Pneumonia | 16 | 47 | 45 | 69 | 53 | 230 | - | 39 |
| Erysipelas | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 20 | - | - |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever. | 1 | - | 1 | - | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Encephalitis Lethargica | 2 | 1 | - | 9 | 2 | 14 | 10 | 9 |
| Respiratory Tuberculosis | 14 | 30 | 25 | 19 | 13 | 101 | 82 ^x | 45 |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis | 5 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 19 | 1 | 10 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | - | 6 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 20 | 3 | - |

x Approximate & including re-admissions.

In the absence of facilities for hospital treatment there is in my opinion nothing whatever to be gained from the compulsory notification of Pneumonia. Its notification has already cost the town over £30 and has necessitated the keeping of a register and accounts.

No less than nine out of fourteen cases of Encephalitis Lethargica notified during the five years proved fatal, five of the deaths occurring in 1924.

— 34 —

★ All the Diphtheria cases and about ninety per cent of the Scarlet Fever cases were removed to hospital.

The Attack-rates (i.e. the mean annual number of cases per 1000 of the population) for the quinquennium are as follows:-
Diphtheria - 1.04: Scarlet Fever - 1.44: The corresponding rates for England & Wales are 1.29 and 2.65:

With regard to Tuberculosis the death-rate forms a more satisfactory criterion for comparison than does the attack-rate. The death-rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis for the five years averages 0.98. The rate for England & Wales in 1925 is not yet available, but the rate for the five years 1920 - 1924 is 0.87.

Factories, Workshops & Workplaces:-

Inspection:-

| | | |
|---|------------------------|------|
| Factories (including Factory Laundries) | No. of inspections | 40 |
| | Written Notices | 4 |
| Workshops (including Workshop ") | No. of inspections | 98 |
| | No. of Written Notices | nil |
| Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises) | No. of inspections | 16 |
| | No. of Written Notices | nil. |

Defects Found

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:-

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---|
| Want of cleanliness. | No. found | 4 |
| | No. remedied | 4 |

No instance of out-work in unwholesome premises came under observation.

There are 98 workshops including 17 bake-houses on the Register.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

J. E. O'CONNOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

Kirby Muxloe,
Leicester.
July 14th, 1926.

All the following cases and about ninety per cent of the

following cases were reported to the Health Department

The following cases were reported to the Health Department

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Summary of Cases Reported

Reported

No. of cases reported

No. of cases reported

No. of cases reported

No. of cases reported

No. of cases reported

No. of cases reported

Notes

Under the Public Health Act:-

No. of cases reported

No. of cases reported

No. of cases reported

Observed

There are 98 workers including 17 women on the

Register.

I have the honor to be

Yours obedient servant,

J. E. O'DONNELL

Medical Officer of Health

1922