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RAUNDS  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

W. MACKENZIE,

*Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers of Health,*

*Fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Health, &c.*

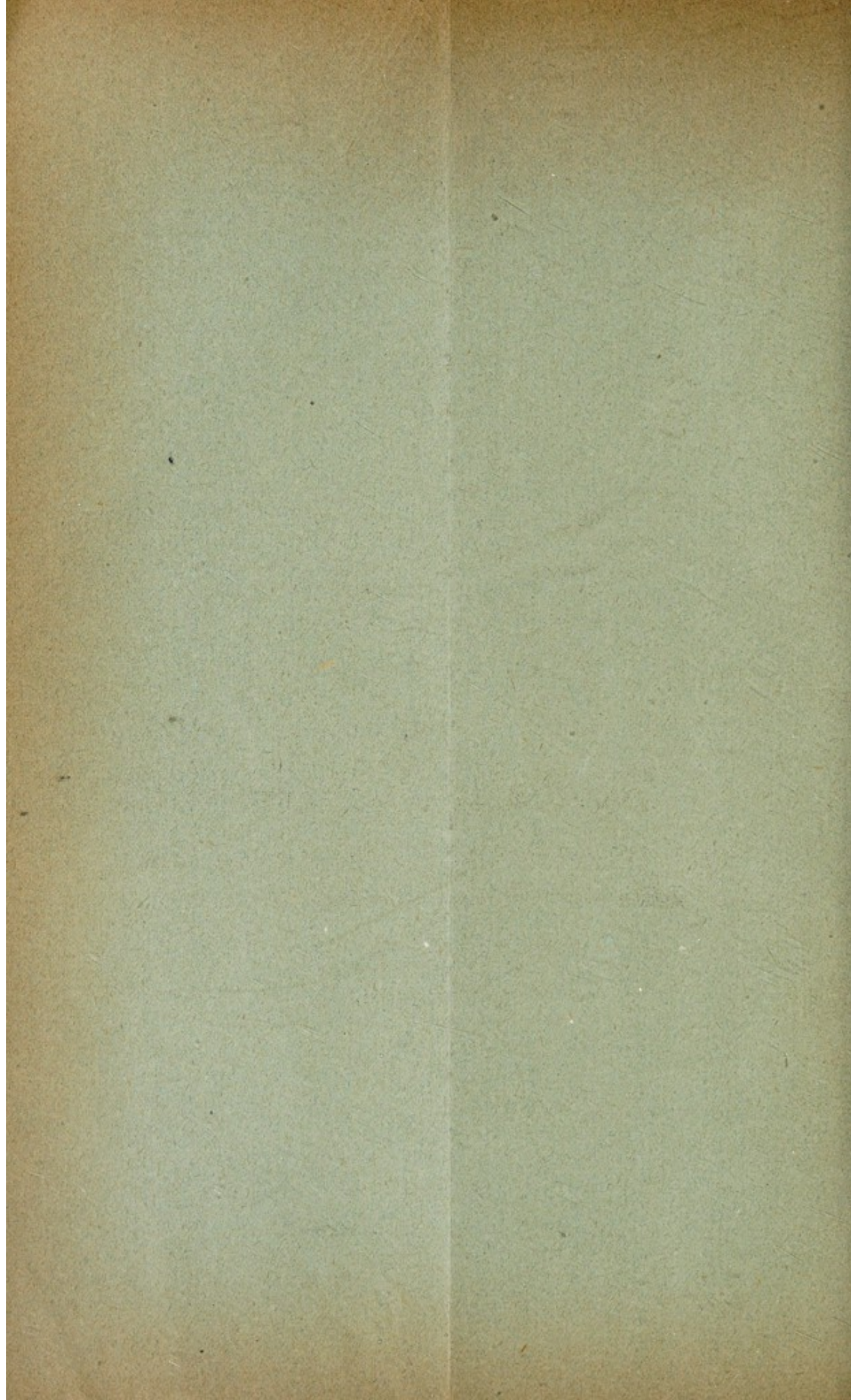
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RAUNDS :

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# TO THE RAUNDS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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RAUNDS,

FEBRUARY, 1905.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for 1904, together with the statistical tables of births, deaths, and Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

The area of the District is 4387 acres. The population at the last census was 3,811, the estimated population for 1903 was 4,211, and for 1904 it stands at 4,376, showing an increase during the year of 165, calculated according to the general rule, that is, at the rate of 5 persons to each new house.

The number of Births registered during the year was 109 (56 boys and 53 girls), which is exactly the same as in the previous year. The birth-rate therefore is 24·9 per thousand of the estimated population. This rate therefore is rather lower than last year, which was 25·88. This gradual decline is going on year by year.

The number of Deaths from all causes and at all ages was 47, or only two more than that of the previous year, of these 23 were males and 24 females. The death-rate therefore for the year stands at 10·7, exactly the same as last year, that of the two previous years being 11·9 and 12·3 respectively. Classified according to age, the numbers were as follows:—Under one year 13, one year and under five, 2; five years and under fifteen, 3; fifteen years and under twenty-five, 1; twenty-five years and under sixty-five, 17; over sixty-five, 11. Of those who died over 65, seven had reached the age of 72 and over, and three of these of these were 81 years of age. It will thus be seen that the greatest number of deaths was that of persons between the ages of 25 and 65, the number at those ages being 17.

Only one death occurred from Notifiable Infectious Disease, namely, Enteric Fever, complicated with Pneumonia.

Three Coroner's Inquests were held during the year. One on the body of a young female, Sarah Matson, aged 17, who committed suicide by drowning herself in a well at Newtown, Raunds, on the 28th June. The next was on the body of a stranger, William Stanley, aged 64, a general dealer, who died suddenly from heart disease, aggravated by the great heat on the 28th of June.



The third was on the body of Amos Knighton, of Raunds, aged 62 years, a highly-respected inhabitant, who died in the Wesleyan Chapel from the effects of heart-disease, while attending the funeral of his father-in-law, the peculiar circumstances of his death casting a gloom over the whole parish. It may be mentioned as a coincidence that a friend of his named Henry Gilbert who attended the funeral, had to be taken home very ill and died the next day from peritonitis, caused by perforation of an ulcer of the duodenum, a post-mortem examination having been made by myself for the purpose of certification.

The causes of deaths registered during the year were as follows :—Cancer, 4 at the ages of 55 to 69 ; Pulmonary Phthisis, 5, the ages being from 14 to 38 ; other Tubercular Diseases, 4 ; Bronchitis 6, Pneumonia 3, Cardiac Diseases 4, Premature Birth 2, Suicide 1, Enteric Fever 1, Infantile Diarrhœa 2, all other causes 15, which included 5 from old age, 2 Paralysis, 2 Convulsions, 1 Gangrene, 1 Purpura Hæmorrhagica, &c.

I am sorry to say that Cancer is again responsible for the death of 4 persons, and of these four, 3 died from cancer of the stomach, and 1 from that of the breast, and I am also sorry to say that the disease shows no signs of diminishing, but is rather increasing here year by year, and with the remedies at our command up to now I am afraid treatment is of little avail, so far as a cure is concerned, and it is greatly to be hoped that the investigations now going on in connection with this terrible disease may ultimately be successful.

Pulmonary Phthisis has carried off 5 victims during the year, and other tubercular diseases 4, the latter including Tabes Mesenterica 3, and General Tuberculosis 1.

As I mentioned in a former Report, Bronchitis and Pneumonia are always very prevalent here during the autumn and winter months, and I attribute the prevalence of these diseases to the dampness of the atmosphere during the winter, and more especially to the cold and clayey soil upon which the greater part of the town is built. During the year we have had no fewer than 6 deaths from Bronchitis and 3 from Pneumonia, against 4 from Bronchitis and 2 from Pneumonia last year.

The deaths of children under the age of one year numbered 13, as compared with 14 and 12 in the two previous years, and this gives an Infantile Death Rate of 119·3 per thousand births registered, the rate last year being 128·4. This is an improvement but is still very high, although much under many other places of the same population. Of these 13 deaths eight were aged only 3 months or under, the principal causes being Tabes Mesenterica, Acute Bronchitis and Convulsions.



The number of cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease during the year was 11, the numbers during the two years before being 2 and 11 respectively. The notifications were as follows:—Erysipelas 4, Scarlet Fever 6, Enteric Fever 1.

The Scarlet Fever cases were scattered over the whole year and were of a mild type. With very careful isolation and disinfection in every case we were able to prevent an epidemic, and with the exception of the case of Enteric Fever with Pneumonia we had no deaths from Infectious Disease during the year. I may mention that the Scarlet Fever Cases were all imported from outside sources, the origin being traceable in every case.

It was not considered necessary to send the above cases to the Isolation Hospital in Brook's Road, but in the case of an epidemic, or in the case of a more serious type of the disease, this building would be soon put to use, and it might be as well for me at this stage to remind you of the size and general description of this building, which stands in such a good position.

The Hospital is of wood and iron, and was supplied by Messrs. Hawkins & Co., of Ashford, Kent. It contains 8 beds in two wards of 4 beds each. Each ward measures 20ft. by 20ft. The nurse's room is 10ft. by 10ft., and the hall 10ft. by 10ft. The outside is iron and the inside lining wood, all the wood-work is varnished. Verandah, with concrete floor and brick foundation. The floor is raised 18in. from the ground, well-ventilated underneath, and cemented all over the site to prevent dampness. The wards are heated by slow-combustion stoves, and ventilators are fixed on the roof. The whole place is well lighted by windows on either side.

We have also a four-bed double canvas hospital, with nurse's quarters, and measuring 24ft. by 16ft., wood floor, ventilators on the roof; also 2 nurse's tents, complete and very comfortable, 18ft. by 14ft. and 8ft. by 4ft.

The site is a good one, 210 feet above sea level, on ground sloping to the westward. The field is a mile from Raunds, and nearly half-a-mile from the nearest house and 400 yards from the road. It contains 16 acres of ground, and is surrounded by a very strong hedge 15 feet high. The land is held on lease by the Council, with the option of purchase.

On the whole, house accommodation is very good, and the old insanitary cottages are being gradually replaced by new ones, and the sooner the worst of the old ones now left can be done away with the better it will be for those now occupying them. A very great improvement has been made in Marshall's Road by the building of 40 new cottages there by Mr. R. Coggins near the Nene Works, almost all of which are now occupied. They are an ornament to the place, and being situated in the healthiest part



of Raunds there is no doubt they will add to the health and comfort of those who occupy them.

The Raunds Brook has greatly improved since the new sewer came into operation and the bad smells from that source are, we hope, almost a thing of the past—at any rate there was little to complain of during the year.

The Scavenging of the town seems to be carried out in a very satisfactory manner by your own workmen, and during the year there has been no cause for complaint in this matter.

The Rules and Regulations regarding Slaughter Houses have been well carried out, and everything connected with them so far as cleanliness is concerned is all that can be desired.

All Dairies and Cow Sheds are well kept, and the trade is carried on under very favourable sanitary conditions.

The Factories and Workshops in the District have been regularly inspected by Mr. Yorke and myself during the year, and with the exception of three cases requiring insufficient sanitary accommodation being remedied, one of which has been done and two now in hand, we found that all the requirements of the Factory and Workshops Act and the Public Health Act have been carried out as regards sanitation, sanitary conveniences, air-space, ventilation, and general cleanliness. It has not been found necessary to take any action to enforce the removal of any nuisance injurious to health.

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act has been adopted in the District, but as yet no standard of sufficiency and suitability of sanitary accommodation for persons employed in factories and workshops has been enforced, and no Lists of Outworkers (sec. 107) for home work have been received. These lists should be received twice a year. In comparison however with former years the number of outworkers in this District is very small, the great majority being employed inside the factories and workshops, and so far as health is concerned. I consider it a great improvement on the old system of working in the dwelling-houses and small stuffy shops at home.

In the Raunds District we have no fewer than 21 factories, 7 workshops and 5 bakeries coming under the Factory and Workshop Act.

On account of the low rainfall during the year there has been a great scarcity of water in some of the factories, more especially during the summer months, this scarcity also affecting the flushing of house drains, water-closets and sewers, as well as the general water supply of the town, many of the people having to carry their water for domestic purposes long distances



during the summer, and for a considerable time the water-cart had to be called into requisition for distribution of water for domestic use. This great want we now have good hopes of being remedied in the near future by a proper water supply from the well now being sunk.

At the end of my report for last year I said :—“ Our exact position at the present moment as regards a Water Supply for Raunds is that we have provisionally purchased a site, and provisionally accepted a tender for sinking a trial well, and have applied to the Local Government Board for a loan for the cost of testing, and they have sent down for particulars on the usual forms for giving details of how the sum applied for is made up. We therefore now wait for Mr. Yorke's Report to the Local Government Board giving the necessary information.”

Mr. Yorke's Report consequently was sent to the Local Government Board, who granted permission for the loan to be obtained for carrying out the work. The work was therefore begun on the 23rd September, 1904, and has been going on steadily since that date. The contractors have reached a depth of 101 feet, at which depth they have tapped a stream in a vein in the Upper Lias Clay which is very troublesome. This stream is not considered sufficient for a town supply, nor is it at the depth at which we expect to find a proper water supply for the District. Measures in the meantime are therefore being taken to shut off this water, after which the work of sinking to the Marlstone will proceed.

The general health of the District has been most satisfactory during the year and the death-rate continues to be very low. I consider that this satisfactory state of matters is due to the greatly improved sanitary condition of the town during the past few years; the streets, houses, drains and sewers being on the whole clean and healthy. I also consider as I said before that the factory system is a great improvement on the old insanitary custom of working in the dwelling-houses or in the little stuffy shops attached to them, and this is the reason of the great improvement in the cleanliness of many of the houses and their inmates.

The work of the Sanitary Inspector has been thoroughly well carried out during the year, and amongst other improvements made and work done by him he reports the following items :—“ 61 houses have been re-drained and connected with the public sewer, there are also a number of houses not yet connected but the majority of these are in hand and I hope soon to have them connected. 71 pail closets have been converted into water closets. 17 insanitary ashpits have been abolished and a



great number of galvanized dustbins provided to houses without receptacles for receiving house refuse. 2 defective and dangerous cesspools have been abolished. A considerable amount of paving has been carried out to private premises. There is still a great number of old houses within the district without any paving or paths to their premises whatever. 32 new houses have been erected within the district. The slaughter houses generally have been well kept. It has been necessary to require one owner of cowsheds, etc., to re-drain, pave and channel his cowsheds and put them in a sanitary condition.

The bakehouses within the District have been kept in a clean condition.

Workshops have been periodically inspected. It has been necessary to give notice in 3 cases to the owners to provide proper sanitary accommodation for both sexes. The sewers have been periodically flushed. There has been no cause for complaint of offensive smells either from the sewers or the water-course. The system of sewer ventilation adopted has been most successful. Now that practically the whole of the private drains are connected with the Public Sewer, the water-course running through the town is free from noxious matters, and in fact the water now flowing through is apparently as clear as a mountain stream.

During the year a further portion of land was laid out at the outfall works and the osier beds extended. It is intended this year to prepare the remaining portion of land not yet prepared for the treatment of sewage."

Through the kindness of Mr. L. G. Harold Lee (Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society) I am enabled to add to my Report the exact statistics showing the rainfall during the year, and I have to thank Mr. Lee for sending me regularly a monthly thermometer chart, showing the daily temperature and rainfall, &c. It will thus be seen that the rainfall for 1904 was only 19.24 inches as against the average for this District of 25 inches, and showing the great fall from that of 1903, which was 30.31 inches.

It also shows the maximum temperature for the year at 86.4 deg. F. on August 4th, and the very low minimum of 10.8 deg. F. on November 24th. The mean temperature for the year being 50.6 F. approximately.

I append the Statistical Tables for the year, and remain,

Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

W. MACKENZIE,

L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., ED., &c.



*Deaths in Raunds Urban District during the Year 1904.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	5 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards
Enteric Fever ....	1	...	...	1			
Diarrhoea ....	2	2					
Phthisis ....	5	...	...	1	...	4	
Other tubercular diseases	4	4					
Cancer, malignant disease	4	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bronchitis ....	6	2	1	...	...	2	1
Pneumonia ..	3	1	1	1			
Premature birth....	2	2					
Heart diseases ....	4	...	...	...	...	4	
Suicides ....	1	...	...	...	1		
All other causes....	15	2	...	...	...	5	8
All causes ....	47	13	2	13	1	17	11



*Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and previous years.*

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.						TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	NET DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT		
		Number.	Rate*	Under 1 Year of Age		At All Ages							Number	Rate*	
				Nnmber	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number	Rate*								
								5	6						7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
1898	3811	115	28.05	15	130.4	45	11.81		1	1	45	11.81			
1899	3811	109	25.58	11	99	38	9.97		2	2	38	9.97			
1900	3811	123	28.12	10	81.3	42	11.02		1	1	42	11.02			
1901	3901	118	30.25	7	59.32	44	11.28		0	4	48	12.30			
1902	4031	115	28.59	12	104.34	48	11.9		3	3	48	11.9			
1903	4211	109	25.88	14	128.4	45	10.69		0	0	45	10.69			
1904	4376	109	24.9	13.	119.3	47	10.7		1	1	47	10.7			

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

Area of District in acres, 4,387.

Total population at all ages, (At Census of 1901), 3811. Estimated Population. 1904, 4376



*Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1904.*

NOTIFIABAE DISEASE.	At All Ages	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards
Small-pox ....	0						
Cholera ....	0						
Diphtheria ....	0						
Membraneous croup ....	0						
Erysipelas ....	4	1	1	....	....	2	
Scarlet fever ....	6	....	4	....	2		
Typhus fever ....	0						
Enteric fever ....	1	...	....	1			
Relapsing fever ....	0						
Continued fever ....	0						
Puerperal fever ....	0						
Plague.... ...	0						
Totals ....	11	1	5	1	2	2	0



Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health,  
for 1904, for the Urban District of Raunds.

**Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces & Homework**

**1.—INSPECTIONS.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	75	2	0
Workshops ... .. (including Workshop Laundries)	17	1	0
Workplaces ... ..	0	0	0
Homeworkers' Premises ... ..	65	0	0
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

**2.—DEFECTS FOUND.**

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H. M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..				
Want of ventilation ... ..				
Overcrowding ... ..				
Want of drainage of floors ... ..				
Other nuisances... ..				
*Sanitary Accommodation { insufficient ...	3	1		
{ unsuitable or defective				
{ not separate for sexes ...				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse ... ..				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses				
Failure as regards lists of outworkers ... ..				
Giving out work to be done } unwholesome... ..				
in premises which are } infected ... ..				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or small-pox ... ..				
Other offences ... ..				
Total ... ..	3	1	0	0

\* Section 22 has been adopted but no standard fixed yet.



## 3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory & Workshop Act... (S. 133)	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act :— (S. 5)	
Notified by H.M. Inspector ... ..	
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	
Other ... ..	
Underground Bakehouses :— (S. 121) None	
In use during 1903 ... ..	
Certificates granted { in 1903... ..	
{ in 1904... ..	
In use at the end of 1904 ... ..	
Homework :—	
<i>Lists of Outworkers</i> — (S. 107)	
*Lists received ... .. None sent	
Addresses of outworkers { forwarded to other Authorities	
{ received from other Authorities	
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises</i> — None	
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises...	
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers premises	
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises ...	
Workshops on the Register at the end of 1904— (S. 131)	
Boot Trade ... ..	3
Tailors... ..	1
Curriers ... ..	2
Basket maker ... ..	1
Total number of Workshops on Register ... ..	7

\* The Lists should be received twice in the year.



## Rainfall and Temperature at Raunds Meteorological Station for 1904,

By Mr. L. G. H. LEE, F.R.MET.S.

### RAINFALL IN INCHES.

January	...	2.11
February	...	3.13
March	...	1.24
April	...	1.05
May	...	1.91
June	...	0.58
July	...	2.58
August	...	1.66
September	...	1.94
October	...	0.73
November	...	1.01
December	...	1.28
Total		<u>19.22</u>

For 1903—Rainfall, 30.31 inches.

For 1904— „ 19.22 inches.

As against an average for this District of 25 inches.

### TEMPERATURE.

Maximum, 86.4 degrees F. August 4th, 1904.

Minimum, 10.8 degrees F. November 24th, 1904.

Mean Temperature for the year (approx.) 50.6 degrees F.