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*With enclosure*

CLITHEROE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

*Le*  
ANNUAL REPORT

OF

T. THORNTON MACKLIN,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR 1907.

Whewell, Typ.





*To the Chairman and Members of the Council.*


Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual  
Report for the Year 1907.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

T. T. MACKLIN



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CLITHEROE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,  
1907.

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The year 1907 has been, from a Public Health point of view, very uneventful.

Perhaps the most outstanding feature with regard to it has been its character for rainy weather. The holiday season, which is so important to the weary workers in Factories and Workshops, for the purpose of recruiting their jaded energies, was much marred by the rainfall and the generally inclement state of the elements. In consequence many people preferred to stay at home, with the result that most pleasure and health resorts suffered a diminution of their usual custom, amongst which the beautiful Rural District of Clitheroe, with its many attractions, shared in the general depression.

The chief occupation of the residents in the district are agricultural or pastoral, and employment in factories and workshops. The farming community are healthy generally speaking, and the employees in factories and workshops carry on their occupation under favourable conditions for the most part. When released from their toil they repair to homes in villages which are not overcrowded, and about which there is an abundance of fresh open air. Then for exercise and recreation they have free access to fields and country lanes, which are free from the smoke and other forms of pollution that contaminate the atmosphere of crowded manufacturing towns, consequently, the conditions of life being not un-favourable to health, there is no very marked form of disease which stands prominently forth as being specially due to the kind of occupation or nature of environment.

If any distinction can be made, it will lean on the one hand towards Rheumatic conditions amongst the workers on the land, due to the cold clay soil and pervading dampness which characterises much of the land in this district, and on the other hand, amongst the factory employees towards Anæmia amongst the younger women and Dyspeptic troubles among the workers of all ages generally. The latter state is mainly due to their manner of living as regards diet. In too many cases, owing to both heads of the family being employed there is no proper meal cooked at dinner time, which is often composed of tinned foods washed down with copious draughts of tea. The tea is generally speaking, strong, black and bitter, and frequently without milk added to it so, that it is in the best possible condition to avert the process of digestion of the principal meal of the day. It has also to be borne in mind that the same people have started the day with a "cup o' Tea," which is follo ved by a big draught of the same liquid at breakfast time. More tea is again consumed after the days work is done, and I fear it too often forms a part



of the supper meal, also this abuse of a most useful and beneficial beverage when properly used, combined with too frequently hurried and insufficiently cooked food is largely responsible for much of the prevailing dyspepsia which is found amongst factory and other workers.

If the house mothers were to remain at home and attend to cooking good meals and other necessary household duties I think it is probable much of the anæmia and much of the indigestion which is too common would be obviated.

I do not at present see any indications of prejudicial effects being produced by any of the occupations commonly obtaining in this district upon the health of the community as a whole. I do not wish it to be supposed that everything is perfect as regards the various occupations of the people, but only for the time being there does not appear to be any special form of disease which is predisposed to or aggravated by the conditions of life arising out of occupation.

#### HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

This is improving both in quantity and quality. The pressure which for a time was felt more especially about Whalley and Barrow, for want of sufficient accomodation has now yielded and the increased requirements of the community has been in very great measure provided for by the erection of a number of new, good and commodious houses in various parts of the district. The sanitary conveniences connected with the new houses are good and want of space in the surroundings cannot be lodged against them.

It is true that some of the older properties, more especially in the older villages, are not all that could be desired, and call in some instances for improvement.



In the village of Wiswell there are several matters which require attention. For two years now, in previous Reports I have called the notice of the Council to some old dilapidated buildings which are a potential danger from collapse and not only so, but are also a nuisance by reason of harbouring dirt and vermin.

There is one such very specially which borders on Chapel Fold and is immediately contiguous to a very good house which is in constant occupation. This should be pulled down and got rid of and the space cleared up for the benefit of the neighbouring dwellings. There can be no satisfactory sanitary conditions where old tumble down buildings are allowed to remain encumbering space which might be better occupied or left clear as the case may be. Some of the older buildings in Wiswell are so crowded together as to shut out the sunlight entirely from certain parts. It is needless to say that such places are not distinguished for cleanliness, nor for freedom from unpleasant smells. Anything that prevents the access of sunshine to places and dwellings is a very grave defect, and if possible should be rectified.

There has been no action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Act during the year under review.

## NEW BUILDINGS.

There has been large additions made in the number of of new buildings during 1907.

At Chatburn 18 New Cottages have been put up, but they are not yet completed or fit for habitation. The Cotton Mill there has had a new shed erected, which is quite a large addition to the manufacturing capabilities of the factory. In addition a Fire Escape has been provided for the safety of the Employees.

Middlewood Hall is having extensive alterations carried out and additions are being made to the house.



At Worston several new additions have been made to Hall Foot.

In Whalley there has been erected 11 New Houses in Queen Street, and 2 more in Regent Terrace, and the majority are now occupied. They constitute a welcome and much needed addition to the accommodation of the Village.

At Barrow there are 6 New Houses completed in White-acre Lane and 6 more on the Clitheroe Road, and all are now occupied.

At the present time alterations and additions are being made to the Bay Horse Inn in Barrow.

Hurst Green, Aighton. Extensive alterations and additions have been made to the Eagle and Child Hotel. The house has been entirely re-roofed, the ceilings raised and new floors put in both up and down stairs.

The Masons Arms is also having additional new buildings erected.

Chipping. The Earl of Derby has erected a new Mansion at Black Moss, which is in occupation by a younger member of his family I believe.

## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

As in most places there is always room for improvement in the matter of sewerage, etc., so in this district there are numerous places where improvements can well be carried out before we can say that in all respect there is efficiency. Still from time to time in different parts of the district alterations and improvements keep being made.



**STONYHURST.** Very extensive alterations & improvements have been made at the College. Old water closets have been taken out and 59 new ones put in, and in addition 6 new urinals have been erected. Where the drains have proved to be faulty they have been taken out and replaced with sanitary pipes. Three inspection chambers have been erected and the drains connected with the main sewer. At St. Mary's Hall a new main sewer has been laid and new filter beds have been put down for the accommodation of that establishment also for six houses at Woodfields, one at Jud Falls and one at the Lodge Gates. All this constitutes marked improvement and is a great boon especially to the occupiers of the houses at Woodfields where better sanitary accommodation has been much required.

**Hurst Green.** At the Mason's Arms two new Privies on the pail system have been erected as well as a new Urinal.

The same additions and improvements have been made at the Eagle and Child Hotel.

**Chatburn.** A 9in. Branch Sewer has been laid from the junction of Downham Road with Sawley Road and carried across the Railway Bridge in Back Lane. The length of the new branch is 213 yards. There has been connected up with this new Sewer the drains of 24 houses, the most of them being new.

Several faulty house drains have been taken up and relaid with Sanitary Pipes.

Two Privies have been reconstructed and three new Privies built belonging to the L. & Y. Railway Co., and put on the Pail System.

**Barrow.** An extension of the Main Sewer to Whiteacre Lane has been laid, but the house drains are not yet connected



with the Sewers. Several old Privies in the Old Row have been reconstructed and put on the tippler system. A tipping place for ashes and house refuse has been secured for this village.

Whalley. The 11 new Houses in Queen Street have had Privies on the tippler system provided for them. In Church Lane one new privy has been erected and an old one reconstructed and both put on the tippler system.

Pendleton. A new six inch sewer drain has been laid to the cottage occupied by Miss Lund.

## POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

I can add nothing to what has appeared in former Reports regarding this matter.

The Calder continues to be as bad as ever but during a wet year such as this last has been, when the river is running pretty full it is not noticeable nor so unpleasant.

Barrow Brook continues to receive impurities of various kinds from the Printworks.

## EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

To a great extent excrement is disposed of by means of drains and sewers, at all events in all the principal towns and villages. But in the more scattered places middens are the common vogue, where the very much better pail system, has not been adopted. In the case of outlying hamlets and separate cottages where garden ground is available there is nothing better than the pail system. On the other hand there is no method so disgusting and capable of causing general unpleasantness than the midden system, more especially, as is very commonly the case, when the midden is insufficiently protected against the



weather and the contents allowed to become wet. Such certainly should not be permitted to continue indefinitely in any decent village, and it might be well if the District Council were to urge on owners of property the advisability of connecting such either into Tipplers where a drainage system obtains, or where there is not available, to the thoroughly satisfactory pail system. This could be done gradually and by degrees as opportunity offers, but there should be no very prolonged delay, more especially in cases where they prove to be annoyances to neighbouring dwellings.

### HOUSE REFUSE.

In Chatburn house refuse is removed by contract, but it appears to be done irregularly and on no proper system, consequently not done in the most satisfactory manner.

In Whalley the duty of removal falls upon the owner or occupier.

In Barrow and Wiswell the Council have undertaken the duty of scavenging and removing all refuse.

In Wiswell certain difficulties are in the way of this being done efficiently, in some cases at least, where the refuse has to be carried some distance and then tipped over a wall before reaching the dustcart. The alternative is carrying everything through the house, which would be intolerable.

### NUISANCES.

There have not been any bad cases of nuisance arising during 1907, and my attention has not been called to any particular case or to any specific instance. Notices have been served on Occupiers in sixteen cases for the abatement of nuisance, and these have all been complied with to the satisfaction of the Inspector. There were seven verbal notices given also which have been in like manner complied with to his satisfaction.



In addition to the above, five Notices have been served on Owners for the reconstruction of Privies and House Drains. Owing to the Council having undertaken the duty of scavenging both Barrow and Wiswell fewer notices than usual have been required.

The Village of Chipping would be well advised to fall into line and have the scavenging work done by contract, or allow the District Council to undertake the duty. I am strongly of opinion that scavenging work will be done much more efficiently, regularly and systematically if done by the Local Authority than when the same is thrown upon the occupier or owner as the case may be.

There are no Registered Lodging-houses in the district.

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are nine registered Slaughterhouses in the District, and these have been frequently visited during the year and found to be in satisfactory order. The walls are well limewashed, and the floors well swilled with water and kept clean, and all garbage is cleared away from the premises regularly. There is one in Chatsburn, two in Downham, two in Chipping, one at Hurst Green, one at Stonyhurst, and two in Whalley.

#### DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The number registered remains same as for 1906, viz. 37

They appear to be kept in a satisfactory state. The shippens are all well limewashed during the summer months when the cattle are put out to grass. The majority of the farms engaged in purveying milk are supplied with good water in fair abundance.

Most of the farms registered have a good stock of cattle in a healthy condition. No case of tuberculosis has been found amongst the cattle by the Inspector.



It is never wise to harass any industry or form of occupation but falling far short of this much more might be done to secure greater purity in our milk supply. Those engaged in milking cows could with advantage pay more attention to personal cleanliness and see that their hands were well washed before beginning milking operations. Again, the udder of the cow is not always clean, indeed we might safely go further, and say it is very often dirty. Generally it would be possible without very much difficulty to ensure the proper cleansing of this part of the cow before the process of milking was begun. There being no compulsory regulations to this effect one can only put it forward as a degree of perfection much to be desired.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

In consequence of a visit by the M.O.H. for the County, to Chipping and the resultant analysis of four Samples of Water taken from four different sources, I was asked by the Council to make a further report on the question of an improved supply for Chipping. This report I submitted to the Council towards the end of August, and since then I have seen no reason to alter the opinion then expressed, nor in any way to modify my views with regard to the potentially dangerous state of the present Chipping Water Supply, but Chipping decides to leave the matter severely alone and do nothing.

In other parts of the District the water supply is more satisfactory, and improvements are being made at different points from time to time.

A new Main has been laid from Downham to Worston by Mr. Assheton, and Hall Foot and Worston Old Hall Farm are being supplied from this source.



The anticipation is that the whole village of Worston will ultimately obtain its supply from this source also.

At Chatburn a Branch has been laid from the main in Downham Road to supply seventeen newly built Cottages.

A good supply of wholesome water has been laid on from near Longridge Fell to two new Cottages at the Deer House in Aighton.

Bradhurst Farm in Aighton has obtained a good supply from the main which supplies Hodder College.

The Eagle and Child Hotel at Hurst Green has also had a service pipe connected with the main from which it now obtains its water supply.

The Inspector reports the tube well with windmill pump at Standen Hey Farm a complete failure, as the supply obtained is altogether insufficient for this farm.

Most places in the District have a fairly satisfactory supply and many of the villages have water laid on to the houses from more or less good and pure sources, but I have latterly been giving attention to Wiswell, which is not so well off in the matter of supply as I had supposed. In the first place few of the houses have water laid on and consequently all water required for domestic use has to be carried by hand. This is, of course, very far from being satisfactory or in accordance with 20th Century requirements. Where water has to be carried by hand, neither the demands of cleanliness nor of health can be properly complied with. Such water as is obtainable is drawn from Troughs on the road side to which cattle and horses, dogs, cats and fowls have free access. In addition to this very frequently vessels which have been standing on the road or perhaps even on a more unclean place are dipped into these troughs thereby contaminating



the water with such filth as may have clung to them. In any case the purity and goodness of the supply cannot be insured as long as the present method continues. The water, like the Whalley supply, comes from an upland source and in all probability may be pure enough at the gathering ground, but it is certainly open to pollution en route and again, as stated above, at the collecting point. This being so I think it is desirable the Council should take into consideration some method of improving the supply, and to prevent its contamination in any part of its course from its source to the consumer. Probably it would be difficult if not impossible to lay water on to many of the houses, but I think it would be quite possible to erect several stand pipes at different points for the greater convenience of those who live some distance from the troughs and thereby obviate the difficulty and drawback of carrying water long distances.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—There are 29 registered in the district and this is the same number as in 1906. A complete list is given on the Home Office Form 572, a copy of which is attached to this Report. There were 59 Inspections made in all during the year but not very much was found to which exception could be taken. At one of the workshops in Chipping an Old Privy was found to be in use which was not actually required by the employees, as 2 newer and better ones had been erected. As this old Privy was in a rather broken down and filthy condition it was ordered to be removed and this requisition was duly complied with. The 2 new ones being quite sufficient for the number of hands employed.

At the Chatburn Cotton Mill I found on inspection 1 W.C. opening directly out of one of the weaving sheds, which had no window or means of lighting of any kind when the door was shut nor was there any means of ventilation but that obtained through the door. The manager was requested ver-



bally to see that a window was opened and proper ventilation provided. On further enquiry later on it was found that nothing had been done to improve matters, the excuse being put forward that there was ample accommodation elsewhere and that it was not necessary for this one to be used. It is more than probable, however, that it would be put to use by those who found it to be nearest to their work and accordingly further instructions were given for it to be put in order. The older sheds in this Mill are not sufficiently well supplied with ventilators in the roof, but the new sheds are really excellent in this respect. The Manager informed me that the defect in the older sheds would be remedied in course of time. The other workshops inspected appear to be in a fairly satisfactory state. There do not appear to be any outworkers employed in connection with any of the workshops in this district.

Section 22 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1890, is not in force in this district nor has any standard of "sufficiency and suitability" been adopted or fixed by the Council with regard to sanitary accommodation for both sexes in Factories and Workshops.

SCHOOLS.—The sanitary condition of many of the Public Elementary Schools in the district are good upon the whole and no complaints have been made with regard to insufficiency of water supply.

It was necessary to close the Barrow School on account of an epidemic of Measles in the village and surrounding district. More than 50 per cent. of the scholars were affected, and absent from school on account of the disease. The school was closed for 3 weeks from the 31st October, 1907.

The new Act involving the Medical Inspection of Children in Public Elementary Schools will no doubt lead to closer and more minute supervision of the sanitary condition of all such schools as well as the general health of the scholars.



INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—With the exception of Measles there was no form of Infectious disease epidemic within the limits of the Rural district.

The Measles epidemic was confined almost entirely to Barrow and immediate neighbourhood and to Little Mytton. Wiswell and Whalley both escaped, with the exception of one case in Whalley, although both villages are very close to Barrow and there is free coming and going between the several places.

Little Mytton appears to have been infected through the school at Great Mytton, which is in the Bowland district of Yorkshire. Both villages, however, can probably trace the original source of infection to the Borough of Clitheroe where the disease was rampant.

The only way of combating Infectious Disease in the district is by means of isolation, as far as it can be carried out in the home of the patient, and by the free use of disinfectants. This is not always very easy or very effectual in the case of small houses where there are large families. It is very difficult to secure efficiency in such cases for the amount of space which can be spared for the purpose of isolation is very limited indeed.

The only Infectious Disease for which an Isolation Hospital is maintained is Small Pox and this is kept up by the Urban and Rural Sanitary Authorities of Clitheroe, jointly. Fortunately there has been no casion to use it for some time past now.

Sulphur Fumigation is the means used for the purpose of disinfection together with abundance of fresh air. I am not sure but that the free exposure of the house or rooms infected to the open air after fumigation has been carried out is the more valuable of the two processes. Experiment, under the most

favourable and reliable conditions possible has shown that sulphurous acid is a very unreliable disinfectant and cannot be depended upon to destroy the micro-organisms to which Infection is due. As things stand the present process adopted is apt to give a false feeling of security which much frequently be falsified in practice. The best authorities look upon sulphur fumigation as obsolete and it might be well if the Council were to consider the adoption of some method of spray disinfection, provided always, that the still more reliable and efficient method of steam disinfection is really impracticable in a widely scattered rural district such as this. I do not propose to enter into this matter in any detail at present but merely introduce the subject as one worth some thought and to call attention to the fact that our present method of procedure is not the best and that a better might without much difficulty be found as suitable to the requirements of the district.

**Vital Statistics.** The area of the district in statute acres is 31,338 and the population is 5,845. This is equal to 5.362 persons per acre which allows ample space for each individual so that there need be no over crowding.

There are 1239 inhabited houses and this allows an average of 4.72 persons per house. Thus again we find no indications of overcrowding so far as general statistics are concerned.

**Births.** There were 120 births registered during 1907 or 17 fewer than for 1906. Of this number 55 were male and 65 were females. This is an inversion of the usual order of things for as a general rule male births preponderate over female. Out of this number 2 were illegitimate or 1.68 per cent., a very high figure indeed, for the country taken as a whole does not show as much as this per 1000. Last year there was 1 illegitimate only and next year there may be



none, so that one need not conclude that there is a very low standard of mortality in the district because of the statistics for one year.

The Birth rate is not high and yet it very closely approximates to the average for the last 10 years. 20.54 per 1000 is much lower than last year's record of 23.44 per 1000, but it is very close upon 20.66 per 1000, which is the last ten years' average. We compare very unfavourably, however, with the whole country as the general Birth rate is 26.30 per 1000.

DEATHS.—There was a total of 76 deaths registered during the year, including five deaths of residents which occurred in Institutions outside the district.

Of this number 36 were males and 40 females and here again we have an inversion of the usual order, for as a rule male deaths exceed female. The death rate is therefore 13.00 per 1000 of the population.

The death rate is very much better than that of 15.54 for last year but is very little better than the average of the 10 years of 13.45 per 1000.

The Infantile Mortality rate is a good deal better than the same for 1906. The number of deaths under 1 year of age was 11 and this is equal to 91.68 per 1000 of births registered. This is decidedly better than the rate for 1906 or 102.20. The present rate is much better, too, than the 10 years average of 99.70 per 1000 of births, still it is too high. This year only 36 per cent. of the deaths under 1 years of age were due to Premature birth, whereas last year 64 per cent. were due to this cause. The remainder of the Infantile deaths were, in all probability, due to preventible causes in which no doubt improper diet played a prominent part. Year by year we have to deplore this sacrifice of the innocents to a Moloch of ignorance and stupidity.

The death rate of 13.00 per 1000 at all ages is considerably better than that for the country taken as a whole which was 15.00 per 1000 of the population.

Reference to Table I. will show at a glance the points which have been referred to in detail above.

In Table II. will be found the principal statistics for the separate localities in the district, by which means it is possible to compare one sub-district with another and also each of them with the whole district.

Chipping shows a decrease in the number of births as compared with 1906 and also as compared with the 10 years' average. In this respect, however, it is similar to the other sub-districts and per sequence to the whole district. Then in the matter of deaths the number is much lower than in 1906, and also lower than the 10 years' average. Again we find this is similarly the case in the other sub-districts, except that in the case of Clitheroe the 10 years' average and the present record is very much the same. Whereas in Whalley the number is very much below the record for the preceding 10 years. I must point out, however, that this is largely due to the reduction of the Whalley sub-district in size. In the matter of Infantile Mortality there are differences shown amongst the sub-districts. In Chipping it is lower than for 1906 but on the other hand it is slightly higher than the 10 years' average. While in Clitheroe the number is higher this year than for 1906 and also higher than the 10 years' average. Whalley compares very favourably, for the number is less by half than for 1906 and very much below the average for the last ten years.

Table III. shows the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year and also shows the locality in which they occurred. The total number was 16, a slight



increase on the record for 1906. 13 were cases of Scarlet fever and 3 of Enteric. Of the 13 cases of Scarlet Fever, 10 occurred in the Chipping sub-district and 3 in Whalley. There were no cases in Clitheroe, indeed this sub-district had a clean sheet the whole year through. The 3 Enteric cases all occurred in Whalley. This table is intended also to show the ages at which the cases occurred according to groups but I regret I am unable to supply them in the majority of cases. The greater number of the cases of Scarlet Fever occurred in June and July. In regard to the cases of Enteric all these occurred in the village of Barrow and none were in the same house. They were sporadic cases—no common source could be traced, nor has it been possible to account for the origin of any one of them.

Table IV. In this table the various causes of death are shown and the age groups in which they occurred. In addition to this it also shows the localities in which the deaths took place.

I am glad to be able to state that there were no deaths from Small-pox and notwithstanding the severity of the Measles epidemic in Barrow and Little Mytton there were no deaths from this cause either. Unfortunately Scarlet Fever claimed one victim and this occurred in the Whalley sub-district. Then one of the three Enteric cases succumbed to the disease. There were 2 deaths from Epidemic Influenza and both of these occurred in Chipping.

The one case registered as occurring from Diarrhoea occurred in the Clitheroe sub-district.

One death in an adult occurred in the Chipping sub-district from Enteritis.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Fever. There were 3 deaths from Phthisis, all of which occurred in Whalley. There were 4 deaths from other forms of tubercular disease 2 of which occurred in the Clitheroe sub-district and 2 in Whalley. There were 2 deaths from Cancer—just half the number which occurred last year—and both occurred in Chipping.

Bronchitis accounted for 8 deaths, which is 2 more than for last year. Pneumonia was the cause of death in 4 instances and is a large increase on last year for then there was 1 only. 3 of these occurred in Whalley. There were no deaths attributed to Alcoholism.

There were 4 deaths due to Premature birth and this is less than half the number for last year, when there were 9.

Diseases or accidents or Parturition carried off 2 and both occurred in the Chipping sub-district.

No fewer than 11 deaths from Heart Disease were registered during the year and this is more than double the number for 1906. These occurred amongst people advanced in life for the most part. There was 1 death due to accident and this occurred in Whalley.

There are no deaths from Suicide to record this year. Senility as a cause of death was responsible for 8 deaths and is 4 less than the number for last year. There were 4 Inquests or 1 more than was the case last year. There was 1 case of Kidney Disease and 2 deaths from Rickets.

I have not felt called upon to comment very specially or at any length upon any of the various causes of death nor upon their distribution throughout the district this year.



Table V. This is an Infantile Mortality table and shows the deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under 1 year of age. It also distinguishes between certified and uncertified deaths.

There were no uncertified deaths during 1907. There were 11 deaths under 1 year of age which is 3 fewer than for 1906.

The Infantile mortality rate is low, 91.68 per 1000 of births. This is considerably lower than for 1906 and well below the average for the last 10 years, there being 102.20 and 99.70 respectively.

Of the 11 deaths of infants 4 were due to Premature birth, thus 36 per cent. were more or less unpreventable. One death was due to one of the forms of Diarrhoeal disease and 1 to some form of wasting disease—then 2 more were due to Rickets. These 4 might be classed among the Preventible diseases and in all probability had their origin in some defect in feeding.

Of the remaining three Bronchitis accounts for one and Pneumonia for another and the last was due to some cause which cannot be very distinctly classified.

The mortality rate among Infants for England and Wales as a whole was 118 per 1000 for Births and 106 in the more rural parts so that the rate for this year of 91.68 may be considered distinctly good, that is from a comparative point of view. This table also shows the number of legitimate and illegitimate births and also deaths. I am glad to be able to say there were no deaths among illegitimate infants in this district.

I may add here that comparatively good as the Infantile mortality rate is, still no one can view with unconcern the fact that so high a proportion as 10 per cent. seem destined to die before attaining to 1 year of age. Any measures that would tend to improve this condition of things would be a great boon to the country in these days of a low birth rate.

Finally, there is the form supplied by the Home Office for the purpose of tabulating in a convenient and systematic manner the results of visits to and inspections of Factories, workshops and workplaces.

Not many defects were found and the table shows such as it was thought necessary to record. Perhaps at this point I might express the opinion that the closets which were found to open directly off the weaving shed in the Factory at Chatburn and practically under the same roof, were not strictly speaking in accordance with the Public Health Act but as no Factory Inspector has reported them or called any attention to them in any way I have not thought it necessary to condemn their use altogether, provided they are properly lighted and ventilated.

I have no further remarks to make with regard to any of the accompanying tables.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

T. THORNTON MACKLIN,

M.D., D.P.H., M.O.H.



