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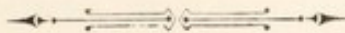
Annual Report
AS TO THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT OF DISS
For the Year 1914,

(Which also incorporates that of the Sanitary Inspector,)

BY

H. M. SPEIRS, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.



DISS :

PRINTED BY EDWARD ABBOTT, MERE STREET.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN OF THE
DISS URBAN COUNCIL.

I herewith have the honour to present my **TENTH ANNUAL REPORT** as your Medical Officer of Health, and as it is my tenth report I have taken the liberty of quoting extensively from a Public Health Inquiry held in 1850 by Wm. Lee, Esq., Superintending Inspector to the General Board of Health (now the L.G.B.)

Comparisons may be odious, but in the present case I hope you will not find them so.

1.—District.

(a) PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The parish of Diss is, roughly speaking, shaped like a pear, with its broadest part to the south, bounded by the River Waveney and Suffolk. On the west lie the parishes of Roydon, Shelfanger and Winfarthing; north, Tibenham; and on the east, Tivetshall, Gissing, Burston, Shimpling, Thelveton, Frenze and Scole, all of which are in the Depwade Sanitary Area.

These numerous boundaries form what I might call the stalk of the pear, which runs north nearly five miles from the town proper and is a very narrow strip of land indeed. In size, it is 3,625 acres, of which about 10 are under water.

The town of Diss stands on ground sloping upwards from the river in the south to a ridge running due east and west about three-quarters of a mile from the river Waveney, the ground from this ridge sloping down again to the north. There are very few houses

to the north of this ridge, nearly all standing to the south on the land sloping down to, and around the Mere.

“**CONTOUR, GEOLOGY, METEOROLOGY, &c.**—The river Waveney runs eastwardly on the south side of the town, and the ground begins, at a distance of about 200 yards, to rise northwardly. Only a few straggling cottages, formerly built on the waste, can be said to be in the valley. The general character of the surface is a fine slope, very suitable for perfect drainage both of the town and suburban agricultural land; the fall being upwards of 50 feet in less than three-fourths of a mile. A very peculiar feature, however in the contour of Diss is the Mere,—a lake of about 5 acres in extent, and about 20 feet deep, situated almost in the centre of the town. It is said to contain some very powerful springs, and there is a constant overflow to the Waveney, about a quarter of a mile distant. From the banks of the Mere the ground rises rapidly on the northern, western, and part of the eastern sides, in the form of an amphitheatre. Some of the thoroughfares of the town wind round the Mere, so that the houses front to the streets, while their gardens or courtyards extend backward to the water. . . . The fall from the surface of the Mere to the river is 3 feet 2 inches. The Waveney flows through a flat alluvial valley. At Diss it is only about 21 feet wide, with a velocity, when fresh, of about 8 feet per minute.

(*b*) **GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.**

The town virtually stands on two strata :—

(1) What is known as Boulder Clay, which is an impermeable mass of clay, with stones, bones and fresh water, and marine deposits in separate layers.

(2) The gravel and sand beneath, but which comes to the surface round the Mere and in a broadening band running along the river to the eastern boundary.

Both these lie on the Chalk which has a thickness of not less than 400 feet.

The diagrammatic drawing, given by Mr. Booth, representing the various strata he had to go through in sinking your wells is of interest. I here give them with their thicknesses :—

	Feet.
Chalky Boulder Clay	53
Gravel and Sand	6
Sand	9
Loose Sand.. .. .	6
Clay	4
Gravel	15
Soft Chalk	69
Very Soft Chalk	30
Soft Chalk and few large Flints	58
Soft Chalk, very little Flint	41
Soft Chalk, more Flint	14
Soft Chalk, less Flint	16
Soft Chalk	28
Soft Plastic Chalk	14
Bands of Soft and Plastic Chalk.. .. .	49
Soft Chalk	7

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2.—Chief Occupation of your Inhabitants.

One might say that there was no predominance to any particular form of trade, but that the people were occupied in such small business as is to be found in most small country towns.

There are two mat and brush factories, which employ several hundred hands, both male and female (the one is situate just in the bounds of Roydon), also a stay factory, which employs from thirty to one hundred girls according to the state of trade. (Since the war this factory has been on full time making shirts and canvas coats for the War Office) ; an iron foundry for the manufacture and repairs of agricultural implements, and one or two large maltings.

I should like to note here that the percentage of married women employed in the above factories is small.

3.—House Accommodation.

For the 3,800 of your population there are some 945 houses, 608 of which you might call cottages whose rateable value is below £8 per annum.

I am pleased to note that your Council have taken my suggestion and have decided to become landlords, and that plans for 14 new cottages are at the present moment awaiting the approval of the L.G.B.

"The suggestion for your Council to make the owners pave certain yards and then take them over as highways has not yet been done, but I hope to see it carried out when the water mains are laid, and one can expect less eruption of the ground." This is a quotation from my annual report for some time back, and I still think it a matter for the Council to take in hand.

What Mr. Lee said in 1850 I am glad to say is true to-day :—

"VENTILATION OF STREETS AND COURTS. CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSES AND THEIR APPURTENANCES.—The town is not densely built, and there are scarcely any close confined courts. The streets are also sufficiently commodious for a town of the size of Diss. The external ventilation is therefore good."

4.—Population of Diss.

1801.....	2246	1861.....	3710
1811.....	2590	1871.....	3849
1821.....	2764	1881.....	3846
1831	2934	1891.....	3763
1841.....	3205	1901.....	3741
1851.....	3637	1911.....	3769

I think these figures may be of interest to you. I base my calculations on the arbitrary figure of 3,800, though you are all aware that for the last six months of 1914 we have had an extra 1,000 men billeted in the town. You will note that the figures are almost stationary for the last 50 years. The vital statistic figures are not so. In 1841 the death rate was 15.6 per 1,000, and the birth rate 32.1. Infantile mortality equalled 29.4 per cent. of the total deaths, or expressed in modern terms 140 per 1000.

It is interesting to note here that as you reduce the death rate so the birth rate falls. The vital point is to keep one's Infantile Mortality low. It is obviously little use to bring a lot of children into the world to have them die off in their first year,

My birth rate for 1914 is 13.1, as compared with the above 32.1, but the Infantile Mortality has dropped from 140 per 1,000 to 42.9.

4.—Sewerage.

You are in possession of a most excellent system of water borne sewerage which connects up the whole of the town with the exception of the east end and the country to the north. Of the latter the Council need take no further notice, as the houses are too far apart to need connection with a public system of sewerage. This has been extended to the Stay Factory during the year, and this is as far as it is possible to go to get a fall. But of the former I fear you will have seriously to consider some scheme, though I must admit there is no violent hurry, as the nature of the subsoil (sand and gravel) would almost allow owners to erect W.C.'s running into open cess-pools now that the water for these houses is no longer drawn from that sub-soil.

You have had some correspondence with the L.G.B. on this point during the year, but as the scheme would be a large one, and the result from the point of benefit to the public in the East End small, I do not recommend it as urgent at present.

I have made no analysis of the sewerage at your Farm this year as last, but purpose doing so during the present Summer.

Let us look at what Mr. Lee says in 1850 :

DRAINAGE OF THE TOWN.

“I find it better at once to state that there is nothing whatever in the town of Diss deserving the name of a drain. There are many open ditches, stagnant and filthy, and one or two covered channels immediately below the surface of the principal streets ; but the place could scarcely be in a worse condition, with respect to any arrangement for the removal of decomposing animal and vegetable matter. If I were to quote from my minutes the instances I met with during a minute inspection, they would add about ten pages of sickening detail to this Report on so small a town ; and the words ‘filthy,’ ‘disgusting,’ ‘offensive,’ ‘stinking,’ ‘stagnant,’ and ‘injurious’ must be oftentimes repeated.”

5.—Rainfall, &c.

There is little to comment on this year. We had a dry summer and autumn, followed by a very wet winter, the total Rainfall being about the average.

Rainfall in 1914

at The Cedars, Diss, in the county of Norfolk.
 Rain Gauge. { Diameter of Funnel 5in.
 { Height of { Above Ground 9in.
 { Top { Above Sea Level 108.9ft.

Month.	Total Depth.	Greatest Fall in 24 hours.		Number of Days with .01 or more recorded.
		Inches.	Date.	
JANUARY ...	1.55	.46	10	13
FEBRUARY..	1.49	.37	21	13
MARCH	3.51	.54	10	20
APRIL.....	.68	.10	22	9
MAY	1.41	.38	8	12
JUNE	1.28	.50	9	9
JULY	2.20	1.03	15	12
AUGUST.....	.78	.16	1	11
SEPTEMBER	.82	.32	11	8
OCTOBER ...	1.83	.49	25	14
NOVEMBER.	2.75	.75	28	18
DECEMBER.	5.09	1.06	28	23
TOTAL ...	23.43			162

Objects nearest to the Gauge.

Objects.	Height.	Distance.	Direction.
House ...	30ft. ...	60ft. ...	N.W. by W.
Cedar Tree	40ft. ...	70ft. ...	E. by S.

BAROMETER.—DISS, 1914.

Highest, November 18th.....	30.6.
Lowest, 28th December	28.40.

VITAL STATISTICS.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.
URBAN DISTRICT OF DISS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFER-ABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents regis-tered in the District.	of residents not regis-tered in the District.	Under One Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1907	3,800	56		14.7	44	11.8			2	36.7	43	11.3
1908	3,800	82		21.5	42	11			3	36.5	41	10.7
1909	3,800	56		14.7	54	14.2			5	89.2	52	13.6
1910	3,800	88		23.1	42	11			5	56.8	40	10.5
1911	3,769	70		19.3	40	10.6	1	5	3	41.	44	11.6
1912	3,790	72		18.9	50	13.1		7	9	126.7	57	15.0
1913	3,800	70		13.1	35	9.2		6	5	69.4	41	10.7
1914	3,800	7	70	13.1	38	10		9	3	42.9	47	12.3

Total Population at all ages, 3,800.

Number of Inhabited Houses, 945. Average number of persons per house, 4.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 3625.

There is now no institution receiving sick and infirm people from outside the district. There is no Sanatorium for the treatment of Phthisis in your District.

6.—Zymotic Diseases.

DISEASE.	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	Average 20·8
Scarlet Fever ...	11	3	3	...	3	1	1	4	48	12	26	
Diphtheria ...	2	22	...	2	...	...	1	...	14	5	16
Erysipelas ...	2	1	...	2	4	2	1	2	5	3	2	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	4	...	2	...
Tuberculosis ...	5	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	20	28	10	4	7	4	12	10	67	22	44	

There were also two cases of Anthrax. We have only once had a case in the past ten years, and that was in 1906, which was in a bristle sorter from the Brush Factory.

The two cases this year were—one from a man in a sale yard, and one a butcher. Both were infected at the same time, and although I reported the cases at once to the County Authorities no traces of the sources of the infected beast could be found.

The Scarlet Fever was a very mild epidemic, confined to a few school children.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1914.

URBAN DISTRICT OF DISS.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.					
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.				
		1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	2	...	2	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever ...	11	...	10	...	...	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	4	...	...	2	2	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Anthrax ...	2	...	...	...	1	1
Totals ...	22	1	12	2	3	4

7.—Zymotic Mortality

Records 3 deaths from Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) a rate of .7 per 1000.

8.—Deaths.

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1914.

URBAN DISTRICT OF DISS.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculosis Diseases... ..	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Rheumatic Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Organic Heart Disease	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Bronchitis	12	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including premature birth	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other defined diseases	8	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	5
Senectus	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
All causes	47	3	2	3	1	1	3	10	24

The deaths occurring in your district were 38, or a rate of 10 per 1,000.

9 residents died outside your district, making a nett total of 47, or a rate of 12.3 per 1,000.

This is a figure which still compares favourably with similar Urban areas. Of this number 23 were males and 24 females.

TABLE IV.

*Infantile Mortality during the Year 1914.***DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS
UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.**

URBAN DISTRICT OF DISS.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	2-3 Weeks.	3-6 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
Syphilis ... ..	...	...	1	1
Premature Birth	1	1	...	2
Totals	1	1	1	3

Nett Births in the Year—legitimate 65, illegitimate 5—70.

Nett Deaths in the year of infants 3.

Gross Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 47.

9.—Infantile Mortality.

Meaning the Deaths from all causes under the age of 12 months.

This figure is three less than last year, and is about our average.

The rate is 42.8.

10.—Births.

The total figure is 70, the same as last year, which is 10 above our average for the past ten years. There were 42 males and 28 females, and 5 were illegitimate.

Curiously the last figure has not varied for some time.

11.—Excrement Disposal and Scavenging.

All of the new houses have been connected to the main sewers where possible. Your Council pays a retaining fee to a scavenger, whose contract has been revised.

12.—Water Supply.

This still remains as good and as constant as ever; further, it has been tested beyond its primary contract supply, and that in its second year only, and it has stood the test well.

These notes of the working of your water works I have obtained from Mr. Cooper, the superintendent.

WATERWORKS.—DISS URBAN COUNCIL.
MONTHLY PUMPING RECORDS.

Month.	Quantity of Water Pumped.	Average Daily Con- sumption.	Quantity of Water Pumped.	Average Daily Con- sumption.
	1913.		1914.	
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
January... ..	210,000	6,774	466,000	15,032
February... ..	219,000	7,821	423,000	15,107
March... ..	271,000	8,742	467,000	15,064
April... ..	365,000	12,166	687,000	23,689
May... ..	492,000	15,871	785,000	26,166
June... ..	502,000	16,733	801,000	26,700
July... ..	568,000	18,322	751,500	24,241
August... ..	544,000	17,548	787,000	25,387
September... ..	427,000	14,233	999,000	33,300
October... ..	501,000	16,161	860,875	27,770
November... ..	472,000	15,733	760,500	25,350
December... ..	453,000	14,613	777,875	25,092
Total... ..	5,024,000	164,717	8,565,750	282,898
Average per Month... ..	418,666	13,726	713,812	23,574

	Total Number of Premises supplied from Mains, 31st Dec., 1913.	New Connections during 1914.	Total Number 31st Dec., 1914.
Houses	143	27	170
Cottages	215	80	295
Business Premises	16	3	19
Chapels	4	2	6
Schools	3	...	3
Meters	2	2	4
Separate Gardens.....	2	4	6
Dairies	1	...	1
Fire Hydrants	1	...	1
	387	118	505

The water from two wells on Fair Green was analysed by Sutton, of Norwich, and condemned. These have been since closed and the pumps removed.

13.—Supervised Premises.

Your Inspector and I have made some 734 odd visits of inspection.

Inspections including Re-inspections.

Number of Inspections made by Inspector.....	725
" " " " " M.O.H.	9
	734

Inspections made up as follows.

Abatement of Nuisances.....	81
New Drainage	123
Infectious Diseases	8
Slaughter houses	12
Factory and Workshops Act	90
Housing and Town Planning Act	248
Miscellaneous	163
	725

Abatement of Nuisances.

21 special complaints have been received ; 60 were detected without complaint being received. Eleven preliminary notices and one statutory notice were served ; in each case the requirements have been carried out. The other nuisances were abated by personal interview and verbal request or by letter without the necessity of serving notices.

New Drainage.

123 inspections have been made of new drainage work, comprising 24 new drains and 5 re-constructed drains. 21 new connections have been made to the Council's sewers.

43 privies during the year have been converted to water closets ; 12 privies to closets with removable receptacles ; and with the conversions of the two previous years the total of water closet in the Council's district now number 110.

I give a Schedule of Particulars below.

Conversions of Privies.	Year :	1912.	1913.	1914.
Privies : Fixed to Removable Receptacles			5	12
" With Fixed Receptacles to Fresh Water W.C's. ...		18	44	28
" With Fixed Receptacles to Waste Water W.C's. (Hand Pail Flushed) ...			5	15
Privies with Movable Receptacles :				
To Fresh Water W.C's. ...				
To Waste Water W.C's. ...				
No. of Privies : Fixed Receptacles ...		Not known.		
" " Movable Receptacles ...			5	17
" " Fresh Water Closets ...			62	90
" " Waste Water Closets ...			5	20

It will be noticed that the number of waste water closets, *i.e.*, without proper flushing cisterns, has greatly increased during the present year. It was in the early part of the year some of these were done and the number includes some that were unrecorded in previous years. In future all w.c's. will be required to have a proper flushing cistern fixed with them in compliance with a resolution of the Council passed in September last. There have also been conversions of privies to a closet with a removable receptacle. This has been done in that part of the district where at present the Council's sewers do not extend, and are much to be preferred for better sanitation than the privy vault type. This, with your approval, I hope to extend, where there are the facilities for disposal purposes.

Infectious Diseases.

Eight visits have been made by your Inspector in cases of infectious disease during the year, disinfection in six cases by fumigation of rooms ; the cases included scarlet fever and diphtheria. Disinfectant has been supplied to 25 persons during the year with

instructions as to its use, on the Inspector finding such necessary. Probably to these prompt measures being taken during the hot, dry summer, a great deal of nuisance was prevented with its attendant danger to health.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

18 visits have been paid by me to these premises, and those visited have been found in a generally satisfactory condition. In all instances the cows are habitually grazed and kept in a clean condition. 10 persons are registered in the Council's district under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, viz.:

Dairyman, Cowkeeper and Purveyor of Milk.....	6
Purveyor of Milk	4
	—
	10

Slaughter-houses.

There are 4 Slaughter-houses in the district to which your Inspector has made 12 visits. They are well kept, being in a very clean condition. In only one instance was there found any sanitary defect, that being defective drainage, and on the owner being interviewed it was at once attended to and the required work done.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

Two workshops have been struck off the register as they now constitute factories, viz. : Mat making, 1 ; Mineral Water Works, 1 ; one has been discontinued ; 3 others have been added on the notification of H.M. Inspector of Factories. One complaint was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, and this has been attended to.

There are 42 registered workshops, as follows :

<i>Trade.</i>	<i>No. of Workshops.</i>	<i>Trade.</i>	<i>No. of Workshops.</i>
Bakers	5	Dressmaking	7
Boot Repairing	4	Malting	1
Brushmaking	1	Millinery	7
Builders	2	Motor Repairs	1
Basket Making	1	Smith	2
Coachbuilding	2	Stone Mason	1
Carpenter	2	Tailor	3
Costume Work	1	Wheelwright	1
Cycle Repairs	1		—
		Total	42

There is one underground bakehouse in the district ; this is frequently visited and kept in a satisfactory condition. 90 inspections have been made, 6 preliminary notices have been served on occupiers to cleanse the workshops, and in all cases the required work has been done. The list of Outworkers employed by Firms in the district has received my attention and has been further supplemented by lists sent in. The total number on the list is 20, being an increase of 10. They are as follows :

Brush drawing 10 ; Yarn winding 8 ; Tailors 2 ; Total 20.

14.—Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

The number of inspections made under this Act are 39 ; 37 were reported under Section 15 ; 2 were reported on which closing orders were made, and 1 was represented as being totally unfit for human habitation. 37 notices were given to execute works, 13 have been complied with, and 23 partly complied with. These figures, taken in conjunction with the 89 to be complied with leave 53 outstanding, either complied or partly complied with. The fact of Military being billeted in the district, and the increased cost of building material combined with the abnormal conditions now existing, has held up any progress to be made, indefinitely. The outstanding notices for execution of works will have my continued attention, and it will be my strenuous endeavour to get as many as possible completed.

I herewith give Schedules of Particulars on the work of the year :—

Number of houses inspected.....	39
“ “ inspections made	248
“ “ houses reported to the Council	37
“ “ notices served.....	37
“ “ houses closed	2
“ “ houses demolished	1
“ “ representations for closure by M.O.H. ..	2
“ “ notices complied with	13
“ “ “ partly complied with	23
“ “ “ neither complied nor partly complied with	53

No cases of overcrowding have been reported. The particulars of living and sleeping accommodation in the houses inspected are as follows :—

No. of Houses.	No. of Living Rooms.	No. of Sleeping Rooms.	No. of Other Rooms.
2	1	1	
12	1	2	
6	1	3	
3	2	2	
9	2	3	
3	2	4	
2	2	6	
1	3	2	
1	3	3	
39	60	106	62
	166		
Total No. of Rooms : 228			

Total number of Rooms..... 228

The number of persons occupying these houses totals 159. which gives the approximate average number of occupants per house as 4. It will be seen from this that on the whole there was ample accommodation.

Military Billets.

Since August 26th various troops with horses have been billeted within the district. On November 20th Dr. Manby, L.G.B. Medical Officer, and Dr. Nash, County Council M.O.H., in company with your M.O.H. and the Inspector of Nuisances, visited the various billets, a special report of the inspections made and work done in connection with the billets being presented and on my instructions a scheme for dealing with the waste water at the Military Camp, Walcot, has been prepared by your Inspector and

passed on to the Military Authority, the work of which is now being carried out. Periodical inspections of the various billets are being made, an authorised permit being obtained for this purpose.

The particulars of Inspections from August 26th to Dec. 31st are as follows :—

Number of Inspections.....	70
" " " reported complaints of nuisances...	9
" " " nuisances found on inspection ...	10
" " " nuisances abated.....	19

Various.

Six animals improperly kept have been removed.

One carcase of a lamb which was unfit for food was ordered to be destroyed.

Twelve inspections of caravans have been made. Each van was found in a very clean condition and the arrangements made for water supply and sanitary convenience was satisfactory.

Byelaws & Scavenging.

There is need for Bye-laws to guide your Inspector in regard to the proper keeping of animals, and the distance determined from any dwelling house that they may be kept in a clean and sanitary condition, also for the periodical removal of manure and refuse.

The present arrangement for the scavenging of the district calls for much improvement, as under the present arrangement difficulty is experienced in getting adopted better sanitary measures, owing to no system for periodical removal of refuse being in operation.

May I respectfully ask the attention of the Council to these matters.

15.—Form 572.**1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.**

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices.
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	90	6
Total... ..	90	6

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied.
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—		
Want of Cleanliness	6	6
Total	6	6

3.—Home Work.

Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers.	
	Lists.	Contractors.
Wearing Apparel—Making, &c.	2	2
Brush Making	10	10
Yarn Winding	8	8
Total... ..	20	20

4 —Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
	42
Total number of Workshops on Register	42

5.—Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5, 1901). Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :— In use at the end of the year	1

16.—Schools.

The following cases were reported to me by the School Authorities during the past year, the children having been inspected and reported on in each case :—

Measles	2
Sore Throat and Diphtheria	14
Whooping Cough	10
Scarlet Fever	5
Mumps	10
Chicken Pox	10
Indefinite	22
	—
	73
	—

None of the Schools were closed during the year from sickness.

I regret that we have lost the services of Mr. Bill as Sanitary Inspector during the year, but congratulate your Council on the appointment of Mr. Handel Jones, who has picked up the various threads of his three predecessors' work in a masterly way.

I sincerely trust I shall *not* have to make the above statement again next year.

I beg to thank him for his valuable assistance during the year ; also Mr. Taylor for the use of his Barometrical Chart, and you, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, for your unvarying courtesy to me.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

H. M. SPEIRS, M.D.