

**[Report 1904] / Medical Officer of Health, Earsdon (Newcastle-upon-Tyne)
U.D.C.**

Contributors

Earsdon (Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1904

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/hcfa5v5a>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

EARSDON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORTS

OF

TAYLOR DIXON, M.B.B.S.,
Medical Officer of Health,

AND


J. R. MACMILLEN,
Inspector of Nuisances.

1904.

North Shields:

W. J. POTTS, PRINTER AND PUBLISHER, BEDFORD STREET.

1905.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29179877>

EARSDON,

JANUARY, 1904.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
Earsdon Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to forward you my report for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1904.

POPULATION.

The population of the District, according to the census of 1901, was 9020, and estimated to the middle of the year 1904, was 9400.

AREA.

The total area of the District is 4711 acres.

BIRTHS.

Three hundred and seventy-three births have been registered, which is one less than last year, and gives a birth rate of 39·57 per thousand per annum.

In 1903 the number of births was 374, giving a birth rate of 40·32 per thousand per annum.

In 1902 the number of births was 338, giving a birth rate of 36·73 per thousand per annum.

DEATHS.

One hundred and seventy-seven deaths have been reported to me, an increase of ten from last year, and gives a death rate of 18·82 per thousand per annum.

In 1903 the death rate was 18 per thousand per annum.

In 1902 it was 15·68 per thousand per annum.

The following table shows the estimated population, and the number of births and deaths that have taken place in each Township of the District.

Township.	Estimated Population.	Births.	Deaths.
Earsdon	3032	143	48
Backworth	2168	45	37
Holywell	3200	132	54
Murton	1000	53	38
Totals	9400	373	177

The deaths reported to me arose from the causes, and at the places indicated by the following table :—

Cause of Death.	Earsdon.	Backworth.	Holywell.	Murton.	Whole District,
Bronchitis	4	2	1	1	8
Pneumonia	3	1	1	0	5
Phthisis	2	3	3	2	10
Tubercular Disease ..	2	2	4	3	11
Measles	0	1	0	0	1
Influenza	0	0	1	2	3
Puerperal Fever ..	1	0	1	0	2
Diphtheria	1	0	0	0	1
Whooping Cough ..	3	3	1	1	8
Erysipelas	0	0	0	1	1
Diarrhœa	3	2	6	7	18
Enteritis	1	1	4	0	6
Heart Disease	6	3	1	3	13
Apoplexy	1	3	1	0	5
Cancer	1	1	3	0	5
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	0	1	0	0	1
Convulsions	4	1	5	7	17
Premature Birth ..	4	0	5	2	11
Senile Decay	5	6	8	2	21
Accidents . ..	1	2	1	1	5
Other Causes	6	5	8	6	25
Totals	48	37	54	38	177

Table showing the number of deaths which have occurred in each Township during each quarter of the year, also the ages in groups at which the deaths took place.

TOWNSHIPS.	First Qr.	Second Qr.	Third Qr.	Fourth Qr.	TOTAL.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5;	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.	DEATHS.
Earsdon	6	10	20	12	48	25	5	3	1	7	7	{ Under 5 Years 30 { Over 5 Years 18
Backworth	7	6	13	11	37	9	3	1	3	11	10	{ Under 5 Years 12 { Over 5 Years 25
Holywell	15	9	15	15	54	24	6	4	1	9	10	{ Under 5 Years 30 { Over 5 Years 24
Murton	8	8	12	10	38	18	8	1	2	6	3	{ Under 5 Years 26 { Over 5 Years 12
Whole District ..	36	33	60	48	177	76	22	9	7	33	30	177

INFANT MORTALITY.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 203·75 per thousand births, an increase of 3·22 from that of last year.

Of the seventy-six Infantile deaths—

- 29 were under one month.
- 7 between one and three months.
- 20 between three and six months.
- 20 between six and twelve months.

I regret to inform you that the Infantile Mortality rate is again so high, and beg to refer you to the special report which I sent you upon the subject on June 13th, pointing out that, although there is some overcrowding, the district is a growing one and has a large birth rate, which of course partly explains the high Infantile death rate. I also think, as pointed out in that report, that one of the chief explanations is the early age at which many of the marriages take place, and consequently the want of knowledge of the proper treatment and care of infants.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

There have been thirty deaths from Zymotic Disease, which gives a death-rate of 3·19 per thousand per annum, an increase of 1·04 per thousand from that of last year.

In 1903 the rate was 2·15 per thousand.

In 1902 the rate was 2·17 per thousand.

PHTHISIS DEATH RATE.

There have been ten deaths from Phthisis during the year, which gives a death rate of 1·06 per thousand per annum, an increase of ·42 per thousand from that of last year.

In 1902 the rate was ·64 per thousand.

In 1901 the rate was 1·33 per thousand.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever, Puerperal Fever, Small-pox, Diphtheria and Erysipelas have occurred at the places and in the months indicated below.

SCARLET FEVER.

Thirty-three cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred during the year, a decrease of one hundred and eighty two from that of last year, and represents an attack rate of 3.51 per thousand.

In 1903 the attack rate 23.17 per thousand.

In 1902 the attack rate 15.14 per thousand.

EARSDON TOWNSHIP.—Sixteen cases, one in February, three in March, one in April, one in May, one in September, two in October, five in November, and two in December.

BACKWORTH TOWNSHIP.—Four cases, two in January, one in April, and one in August.

HOLYWELL TOWNSHIP.—Ten cases, one in January, two in May, one in August, two in November, and four in December.

MURTON TOWNSHIP.—Three cases, one in January, one in February, and one in November.

There has been a great decrease this year in the number of cases of this disease. It has been of a mild type, and no death has occurred. Five of the cases were removed to the Hospital.

The Sanitary Inspector has visited every case, and supplied the necessary disinfectants, and a bill of instructions how to prevent the spread of the disease.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Six cases of Enteric Fever have occurred, an increase of five from that of last year.

EARSDON TOWNSHIP.—Two cases, one in November and one in December.

BACKWORTH TOWNSHIP.—One case in September.

HOLYWELL TOWNSHIP.—Two cases, one in September, and one in December.

MURTON TOWNSHIP.—One case in December.

Two of these cases were removed to the Hospital. These cases appears to have been all imported into the District as I was unable to trace any local source of infection.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Four cases of Puerperal Fever have occurred.

EARSDON TOWNSHIP.—Two cases, one in February, and one in October.

HOLYWELL TOWNSHIP.—One case in July.

MURTON TOWNSHIP.—One case in February.

Of these cases the two in the Earsdon Township proved fatal.

SMALL-POX.

Fourteen cases of Small-pox have occurred, an increase of ten from that of last year.

EARSDON TOWNSHIP.—Four cases, two in April, and two in May.

BACKWORTH TOWNSHIP.—One case in December.

HOLYWELL TOWNSHIP.—Four cases in April.

MURTON TOWNSHIP.—Five cases, one in January, two in April, and two in May.

The first case occurred in January, there were no more cases until April when eight occurred, this was followed by four cases in May and one in December. All the cases were promptly removed to the Small-pox Hospital, the contacts isolated, and the houses thoroughly disinfected, and no spread took place from any of these cases. Each outbreak appeared to be imported from neighbouring Districts.

DIPHTHERIA.

One case of Diphtheria occurred in the Earsdon Township in July which was removed to the Grange Hospital and died there.

ERYSIPELAS.

Twenty-three cases have occurred, a decrease of two from last year.

EARSDON TOWNSHIP—Six cases, one in April, one in July, one in August, one in September, and two in November.

BACKWORTH TOWNSHIP.—Seven cases, one in January, one in April, one in May, one in June, one in July, and two in October.

HOLYWELL TOWNSHIP.—Six cases, one in February, one in May, one in June, one in July, one in September, and one in November.

MURTON TOWNSHIP.—Four cases, one in January, one in April, one in July, and one in October.

TABLE I.—EARS DON URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics in Whole District during 1904 and previous Years.*

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.		
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1894.												
1895.												
1896.												
1897.	8210	199	32.31	41	206	100	16.24					
1898.	8650	295	34.1	50	169	139	16.06					
1899.	8834	286	32.37	70	244	155	17.54					
1900.	9049	322	35.58	52	161	139	18.6					
1901.	9020	356	39.46	67	188	178	19.73					
1902.	9175	388	36.73	51	150	144	15.68					
1903.	9275	374	40.32	75	200	167	18.	1	1	1	167	18.
Averages for years 1894-1903.	8887	317	35.83	58	188	145	17.4					
1904.	9400	373	39.57	76	203	177	18.82	1			177	18.82

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

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 4711.

Total population at all ages, 9020; Number of inhabited houses, 1825; Average number of persons per house, 4.94 (at Census of 1901).

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the institution in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

<p>I.</p> <p>Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the district.</p>	<p>II.</p> <p>Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.</p>	<p>III.</p> <p>Other institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.</p>
<p>Grange Hospital.</p>	<p>Scaffold Hill Small-pox Hospital. Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne.</p>	
<p>Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.</p>		

TABLE II.—EARS DON URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1904 and previous years.

Names of Localities.	EARS DON.				BACKWORTH.				HOLYWELL.				MURTON.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1897	2010	51	26	11	2350	40	31	8	3112	102	36	15	738	6	7	7
1898	2358	116	40	15	2375	48	30	9	3167	112	57	23	758	19	12	3
1899	2425	98	68	30	2387	55	23	8	3222	106	50	24	800	27	14	8
1900	2550	117	48	20	2397	50	30	7	3252	109	46	19	850	46	15	6
1901	2898	130	60	27	2168	67	33	6	3085	122	62	20	869	37	23	14
1902	2926	125	43	15	2168	53	26	3	3111	120	48	24	970	40	27	9
1903	2976	142	69	34	2168	55	28	8	3163	107	43	23	995	70	27	10
Averages of Years 1894 to 1903	2591	111	50	21	2287	52	28	7	3158	111	48	21	854	35	17	8
1904	3032	143	48	25	2168	45	37	9	3200	132	54	24	1000	53	38	18

NOTES.—(a) The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as wards, parishes or groups of parishes, or registration sub-districts. Block 1 may, if desired, be used for the whole district; and blocks 2, 3, &c., for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this Table need not be filled up.

(b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are to be included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident.")

(c) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be allotted to the respective localities according to the addresses of the deceased.

(d) Care should be taken that the gross totals of the several columns in this Table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole districts in Tables I. and IV.; thus the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b*, and *c* should agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12, respectively, of Table I.; the gross total of the sub-columns *c* should agree with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-columns *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

TABLE IV.—EARS DON URBAN DISTRICT. Causes of. and Ages at, Death during the Year 1904.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at Subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to Localities at all Ages.					TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.		
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Earsd'n	Back-worth.	Holy-well.	Murton	13		14	15
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Measles	1	1	.. 4	.. 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 3	1	.. 1	.. 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Whooping Cough	8	3	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	3	3	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	1	..	.. ..	1	.. 1	.. ..	.. ..	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. 2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Epidemic Influenza	3	..	.. 4	.. ..	.. 1	.. 2	.. ..	.. 3	.. 2	.. 1	.. 2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Diarrhœa (see notes at back)	18	13	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1	.. ..	3	2	6	7	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Enteritis do.	6	5	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	1	.. ..	1	1	4	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Puerperal Fever do.	2	..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	1	.. ..	1	.. ..	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Erysipelas	1	..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1	.. ..	..	.. ..	.. ..	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	10	..	.. 3	2	1	7	.. ..	2	3	3	2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Other Tubercular Diseases..	11	5	.. ..	3	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	2	2	4	3	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Cancer, Malignant Disease.. (see notes at back)	5	..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	3	.. 2	1	1	3	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Bronchitis	8	3	3	.. ..	.. ..	1	1	4	2	1	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Pneumonia	5	3	2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	3	1	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	1	..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1	.. ..	..	.. ..	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Alcoholism	1	..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1	.. ..	..	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	..	..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Premature Birth	11	11	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	.. 9	.. 2	4	3	5	2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Heart Diseases	13	1	.. ..	.. ..	1	1	.. ..	6	2	1	3	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Accidents	5	..	.. 3	.. ..	.. 1	1	.. 4	1	2	1	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Apoplexy	5	..	.. 2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1	3	1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Convulsions	17	15	.. 2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	4	1	5	7	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
Senile Decay	21	..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	.. 20	5	6	8	2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
All other causes	24	16	.. 1	2	.. 2	2	1	6	5	7	6	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
All causes	177	76	22	9	7	33	30	48	37	54	38	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..

See Notes on following page.

Notes to Table IV.

- NOTES.—(a) In this Table all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be included with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in columns 9-15, to be included among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-Residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be excluded from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of this Table.
- (b) See notes on Table I. as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-residents," and as to the "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purpose of these Tables. The "Localities" should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.
- (c) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-residents," are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (a), to be entered in the last column of this Table. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.
- (d) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of this Table should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-column c. The total deaths at all ages in column 2 of this Table should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.
- (e) Under the heading of "Diarrhœa" are to be included deaths certified as from diarrhœa, alone or in combination with some other cause of ill defined nature; and also deaths certified as from Epidemic Enteritis, Zymotic Enteritis, Epidemic Diarrhœa, Summer Diarrhœa, Dysentery and Dysenteric Diarrhœa, Choleraic Diarrhœa, Cholera, Cholera Nostras (in the absence of Asiatic cholera).
- Under the heading of "Enteritis" are to be included those certified as from Gastro-enteritis, Muco-enteritis, and Gastric catarrh. unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, especially those of infants, under the specific term "Diarrhœa."
- Deaths from diarrhœa secondary to some other well-defined disease should be included under the latter.
- Under the headings of "Cancer" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III. and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

TAYLOR DIXON, Medical Officer of Health.

January, 1905.

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

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries.)	24	2	
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	40		
Workplaces			
Homeworkers' Premises			
Total	64	2	

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 accommodations { insufficient	2	0		
{ unsuitable or defective	2	2		
{ not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)				
Failure as regards lists of outworkers (S. 107)				
Giving out work (unwholesome (S. 108) to be done in premises which are infected (S. 120)				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (S. 108)				
Other offences				
Total	4	2		

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—		
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and 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. Inspectors..		
Other		
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—	None	
In use during 1903		
Certificates granted { in 1903		
{ in 1904		
In use at the end of 1904		
	Number of	
Homework :—	Lists.	Outworkers
<i>Lists of Outworkers</i> (S. 107) :—		
Lists received None		
Addresses of outworkers { forwarded to other Authorities ..		
{ received from other Authorities ..		
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises</i> :—	Wearing Apparel;	Other.
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108)		
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises.. .. .		
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110)		
Workshops on the Register (S. 181) at the end of 1904 ..	10	
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses may be enumerated here.		
Total number of workshops on Register ..	10	

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

During the year a new block has been added to the Grange Hospital, with accommodation for twelve patients. There is now altogether accommodation for twenty-four patients.

The Scaffold Hill Small-pox Hospital has accommodation for twenty patients.

Both Hospitals are now under the control of a joint Hospital Board for the combined Urban Districts of Earsdon, Whitley, and Seghill, and the Rural District of Tynemouth.

As the area served by the Hospitals has been very much extended, your District has really not so much Hospital accommodation as it had before the combination.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for your District is now got direct from the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, instead of through the Tynemouth Rural District. It is of good quality, and the supply has been constant.

The total consumption of water for the year for all purposes has been 27,390,000 gallons as compared with 27,138,000 gallons last year. The total consumption for domestic purposes during the year has been 21,701,000 gallons, this gives an average consumption of 6.4 gallons per head per day.

Holywell Village is still without a proper water supply.

The water has been duly supplied to all new property erected in your District.

PUBLIC LIGHTING.

The main roads of the Earsdon and Backworth Townships are to be lighted by electricity, to be supplied by the Backworth Coal Company. Poles are now being erected for that purpose.

SEWERAGE.

The sewer has been relaid at Hartburn Terrace, Holywell, extra manholes built, and an automatic flushing tank fixed to flush it.

At Woodbine Row, Shiremoor, a sewer has been laid, and proper gullies fixed for each house.

At Double Row, Bates' Cottages, the sewer has been relaid, and the branch drains for each house properly connected, additional gullies have been fixed, as in stormy weather this row was frequently flooded.

I have received complaints during the year about the foul condition of Briar Dene Burn, which upon investigation I found was undoubtedly causing a nuisance.

The Irrigation Ground is still in the same unsatisfactory condition.

The outlets for the sewerage of the District require your early attention.

SCAVENGING.

The scavenging upon the whole has been better done than in previous years, although two or three sections have not been quite satisfactory. The deposits are most unsightly, and a source of danger, and a refuse destructor is certainly needed.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

I have in company with your Sanitary Inspector visited the Dairies and Cowsheds in the District during the year. They were satisfactory, although no regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops' Orders have yet been adopted.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

I have from time to time in company with your Sanitary Inspector visited the Factories and Workshops in your District. Most of them were in good order, having sufficient air space and ventilation. Two of them, one at Backworth Village, and one at New Backworth, were, as mentioned to you in my monthly report, without any privy accommodation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

TAYLOR DIXON.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Earsdon
Urban District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1904.

NEW BUILDINGS.

During the year, plans have been presented and approved for 20 houses in the district.

THE PRIVATE STREET WORKS' ACT.

As the private streets in your district are not kept in proper repair, the work should be undertaken by the Council, and after completion they would be kept in order by the Council's workmen.

SEWERAGE.

The sewer at Hartburn Terrace, Holywell, has been taken up and relaid, an extra manhole and a flushing tank built. This sewer is now in thorough working order.

A sewer has been laid for the houses at Woodbine street, Shiremoor, and properly trapped gullies fixed for each house.

The sewer at Double Row, Bates Cottages, has also been taken up and relaid, 2 extra manholes built, and the branch drains properly connected.

The flushing tank near the Institute is now so arranged that it is capable of flushing any sewer of each row. The surface channel in this row has also been taken up and relaid, and extra gullies fixed to prevent the row from being flooded in wet weather.

The sewers of your district as mentioned in my previous reports are very difficult to keep in order, on account of the small gradients, and the subsidence of the ground.

All your sewers are periodically flushed by automatic flushing tanks.

With regard to the complaints of your own and the County Medical Officer about the condition of Brier Dene and Seaton Burn, nothing has yet been done.

It is difficult to get the four interested authorities concerned to take any joint action.

WATER SUPPLY.

Your district is supplied with water from the Newcastle Water Company. The supply is constant, and is of good quality.

Holywell Village being the only part of your district without a proper supply, I hope this will be laid on during the year.

As I have said before, an abundant supply of water is an absolute necessity in all districts; I recommend that the water be laid on to every house, instead of carrying from the stand-posts as at present.

40 new services have been laid on in different parts of the district.

The Council have made arrangements with the Newcastle Water Company to take the water direct at 6d. per 1,000 gallons, as against 8d., 9d., and 1s. per 1,000 gallons which they have been paying.

This will mean a considerable saving to the ratepayers.

The consumption of water in the different districts has been as follows:—

DISTRICT.	Gallons.	Average consumption per head per day.
Earsdon ...	9,668,000	... 8·7 gallons.
Holywell ...	6,079,000	... 5·2 „
Backworth ...	3,761,000	... 4·7 „
Murton ...	2,193,000	... 6·0 „

21,701,000 gallons.

The total consumption of water for all purposes in the district has been 27,390,000 gallons, as against 27,138,000 last year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

During the year a large number of nuisances have been brought under my notice, and abated in most cases when I drew attention to them. Only three official notices have had to be served during the year.

Notice was served on the owner of property at New York to erect new privies and ashpits which has been complied with.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

There are seven slaughter houses in the district, which are kept in a satisfactory condition.

These have been periodically inspected. Bye-laws should be adopted for the control of these premises.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

These I have inspected with your Medical Officer from time to time. The majority are kept in a very good condition.

I have to remind you again that regulations should be adopted for the control of these premises.

PRECAUTION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All cases of infectious disease notified are visited by me, and disinfectants supplied gratis, and as soon as possible, where practicable, the premises are fumigated.

Acting under instructions of the Earsdon Joint Hospital Board, I have erected a new hospital block for 12 beds at the Grange, which gives accommodation at the Grange of 24 beds. There is also at Scaffold Hill an hospital with 20 beds, which is used for small-pox cases only.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS' ACTS.

The factories and workshops in your district have been inspected from time to time.

With the exception of two, these were in fairly good order.

SCAVENGING.

The scavenging and disposal of refuse in the district is carried out by contract.

There are 14 sections, which are let as separate contracts.

The available deposits are being rapidly filled up, and it is probable that at some future date the question of the disposal of this refuse by a destructor will have to be considered.

The premises are attended to at intervals of four weeks, and except in one or two sections, have been fairly satisfactorily attended to.

The cost of the scavenging in the different sections per house per annum is as follows :—

EARSDON TOWNSHIP.				7
		s. d.		£ s. d.
Earsdon Village ..	112 houses	cost 7 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	per house per annum.	44 0 0
Bertram Place ..	122	8 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	„	50 0 0
Earsdon Road ..	168	9 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	„	77 0 0
Shiremoor ..	226	9 11	„	112 0 0
Earsdon Square ..	56	6 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	„	18 10 0
Total No. of Houses	684		Total Cost	£301 10 0

BACKWORTH TOWNSHIP.				
		s. d.	£ s. d.	
Backworth Rows	210 houses	cost 7 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	per house per annum.	74 0 0
Backworth Village	40	8 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	„	16 15 0
C pit & Low steads	124	6 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	„	39 10 0
Total No. of Houses	374		Total Cost	£130 5 0

HOLYWELL TOWNSHIP.				
		s. d.	£ s. d.	
Seaton Terrace ..	227 houses	cost 6 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	per house per annum.	69 0 0
Bates Cottages ..	166	7 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	„	62 0 0
Holywell Village	38	7 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	„	13 17 6
East Holywell ..	99	6 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	„	33 10 0
West Holywell ..	109	6 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	„	33 10 0
Total No. of Houses	639		Total Cost	£211 17 6

MURTON TOWNSHIP.				
		s. d.	£ s. d.	
Murton and New York ..	204 houses	cost 8 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	per house per annum.	89 10 0

The total cost of Scavenging for the District was £733 2s. 6d., which is a cost of 1s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per head of the population. The total cost last year was £668 10s. od., which was at the rate of 1s. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per head of the population.

GENERAL.

I have in company with your Medical Officer periodically inspected your District. As stated in my previous reports, there are still a large number of open ashpits which should be covered in.

In several parts of your District, open Channels are the means of drainage. These should be done away with, and properly trapped gulleys fixed for each house.

It is impossible to enumerate in detail, all the matter which have, and are being dealt with, but all around the district greater or less improvements have been made.

LIGHTING.

As stated in my last Report, Seaton Terrace and Holywell Village are lighted by Electricity, and arrangements have been made with the Backworth Coal Company to supply current at 6d. per unit, to light the Earsdon, Backworth and Havelock Place Roads with about 109 16c.p. lamps, which work will be completed in the beginning of the New Year.

It is under consideration to light New York and Murton, Earsdon Square, East and West Holywell, which I hope will be done in the near future.

I take the opportunity of again expressing my thanks to the members and officials of the Council, and also to the public generally, for the manner in which I have been supported in the discharge of my duties.

Your obedient servant,

J. R. MACMILLEN.

Easington Rural District

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending December 31, 1904.

WINGATE,

February, 1905.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report of Sanitary Work and Vital Statistics for the year ending 31st December, 1904.

During the year, 825 deaths occurred of persons belonging to the district, of which 810 occurred within the district and 15 without, and 1,687 births were registered.

The death rate of persons belonging to the district was 18·18 per thousand of population, against 19·88, the average for the previous twenty-four years.

The birth rate was 37·18 per thousand of population, against 39·59, the average for the previous twenty-four years.

The death rate is 48·68 per cent. of the birth rate, against 45·96, the average of the previous twenty-four years.

The number of deaths under five years of age was 417, being 50·54 per cent. of the total deaths, against 52·25, the average for the previous twenty-four years.

The number of deaths under one year to one thousand births registered was 172, against 168, the average for the previous twenty-three years.

Twenty-one deaths were of persons over eighty years of age: thirteen males with an average of 83·0 years, and eight females with an average of 83·6 years.

191 deaths occurred in the first quarter, 191 in the second, 220 in the third and 223 in the fourth.

Fifty-seven deaths were certified by coroner's inquest or order and no death was certified by an unqualified practitioner.

Thirty-two deaths occurred at the Union Workhouse: twenty-three of persons belonging to the district and nine of persons not belonging to the district; five from tubercular disease, two from malignant disease, three from bronchitis, two from heart disease, one accident and the rest from diseases incident to old age.

No death occurred at the Infectious Hospital.

Of the fifteen deaths of persons occurring in Public Institutions beyond the district, four were at the County Asylum, Sedgefield, eight at Sunderland Infirmary and one each at Hartlepool Hospital, Durham County Hospital and Sherburn Hospital.

The deaths from the principal zymotic diseases were 1·03 per thousand of population, against 2·13, the average for the previous twenty-three years. They were:—

	Under 5	Over 5	Total
Measles	8	—	8
Scarlet Fever	4	1	5
Whooping Cough	5	—	5
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	11	6	17
Enteric Fever	—	10	10
Continued Fever	—	2	2
	<hr/> 28	<hr/> 19	<hr/> 47

TYPHUS FEVER.—No case of this disease has appeared in the district since 1895.

SMALL-POX.—After having been free from this disease since 1898, it made its appearance in the year 1903, but at the end of that year the district was free. Early in January, the first case appeared at Horden in a man who had been staying outside the district and visiting at an infected house. The rash appeared two days after he took ill and he was removed to the Infectious Hospital the same day. The next case was in the last week of April, at Thornley, brought from the same outside source as the previous case, a woman with her husband and two children lodging with another family. Besides removal to hospital, all contacts were vaccinated. In this last case the number of contacts was large but no case followed. Among the contacts at this place were three men, one who worked in a coal pit in this village and two in a coal pit at a village two miles distant. As the conditions under which these men work, coming into very close contact in an atmosphere purified by artificial means of ventilation, tends greatly to facilitate the spread of infectious germs if these are present, it was considered advisable to keep those men from work during the observation period. This was ordered to be done, and to secure it effectually, without leaving any loophole for complaint, full compensation was made to the men at the joint cost of their employers and your Council. An outbreak of this disease is estimated by your officers as a matter of primary importance. The efficiency of the means at their disposal for its suppression, notification, communication, removal, disinfection, tracing of contacts and enquiry as to origin, all effected the same day, and no stint of expense on the part of your Council, may be considered satisfactory as no case followed these, though the County has not been free from it during the year. As to the origin and method of spreading between districts. Of 22 cases occurring in this and the previous year, while two could be traced to visiting infected houses outside the

district, there is the clearest evidence that the remaining 20, or ninety per cent., were brought into the district in the first instance by professional tramps or persons of no fixed abode in search of work. Any legislation directed towards the suppression of the tramp system, apart from a social advantage, would be an immense boon to the public from a health point of view.

MEASLES.—The year began with the tail end of an epidemic of the year before existing at Wingate, Monk Hesleden and Shotton. It expended itself during the first quarter, producing six deaths at these villages. It did not again appear in epidemic form in any part of the district, though in the third and fourth quarters there were a few straggling cases at Shotton and Murton resulting in one death at each of these places. The epidemic extending into the first quarter from the previous year was so severe and unusually fatal that it was the subject of a special report to your Council. The Elementary School at Monk Hesleden was closed from January 15th till February 1st. The district is now quite free from it.

SCARLET FEVER.—The district is never quite free from this disease; though it does not every year burst out into an epidemic form its continuity is preserved in every village. This year the incidence on each population centre was almost the same as that of the previous year with the exception of Haswell where it became extensive as to numbers during the whole of the second and third quarters. The epidemicity, probably owing to the mildness of the weather, did not extend to any other part of the district. It is gratifying to record that the diminishing severity of the disease still continues. The case mortality was 1·8 per cent. while the rates for the previous five years, 1899–1903, were 3·5, 3·4, 2·3, 3·5 and 3·3. A case occurred at a dairy farm from which the milk was sent to a town outside the district. Every

precaution was observed to keep the patient and attendant thoroughly isolated from the rest of the house, and the dairy work was kept outside the house altogether. It was not considered necessary to interfere with the milk trade beyond ordering that it should be despatched immediately without being stored. No other case occurred there. The district is at present free from the disease.

WHOOPING COUGH.—This is not a notifiable disease, but I believe the district has been practically free from it, like the previous year, except at Haswell where there were a few cases in the first half of the year, but it was not epidemic.

DIPHTHERIA.—This disease has appeared during the year, not in an epidemic form but, like the year before, in every locality of the district. Formerly it was somewhat rare, but of late it has increased. In 1900 there were thirteen cases, in 1901 fourteen, in 1902 seventy-seven, in 1903 ninety-two, a gradual increase, until this year it is reduced to sixty-two. These appeared in fifty-two households and the case mortality varied from nothing to 50 per cent. in the different localities, and for the whole district 17 per cent. This more favourable mortality is due partly to the increased use of antitoxin as a remedy but more so to the increasing recognition of its existence in a very mild form. Unlike the previous year, its greatest incidence was on the village, and not the agricultural, part of the population. Its incidence in the first and fourth quarters—the coldest—was exactly double of that in the second and third, which shews strongly its endemic nature. Every case was the subject of a special enquiry into its origin and surroundings, with the following results. In 22 there were defects of drainage, blocked sinks or stagnation by bad levelling or construction of drains and open channels. These, if not the direct cause, are exciting conditions which it is well to discover. In four the houses were markedly damp.

In two the cases were directly imported from outside. In only three cases was there evidence of direct infection from existing cases. This accounts for 31 out of 52 households invaded. In the remaining 21 no history as to origin could be discovered, but there is no doubt direct infection plays a very great part, though it is difficult to get any admission to facts that might prove this. The importance of isolation parents in general cannot be got to understand, for while following up the instructions to keep the other children from school it is not uncommon to find neighbours' children brought into the house to play with the sick one. In no instance could its spread be associated with milk supply or school attendance. One case was at a dairy farm. Effectual isolation was secured in another house between which and the dairy all communication was stopped, and no other case followed.

In Easington there was only one case, associated with an offensive ashpit being emptied on to the roadway. In Haswell there were ten cases, mostly in the first quarter: with four there was defective drainage; in one, with apparently satisfactory surroundings, the pantry was found to be abutting on the privy ashpit of an adjoining house. At Shotton, eight cases in five houses led to no discovery but neglect of ordinary cleanliness in the houses and their surroundings. In the Castle Eden group: one in a good new house was imported; two were close to a stagnant pool of offensive sewage; one was in a house where there had been a case a year before, by handling infected articles that had been stored away at that time, shewing, as has been often demonstrated, that the infective germs may be stored up for a long period, and the necessity for thorough disinfection; one was in the house of a school teacher who was debarred attending school until a sufficient period after convalescence. At Murton there were three

cases in houses with satisfactory sanitation, with poultry and other animals penned in the yards. At Thornley there were eight cases in seven houses, all mild and mostly in proximity to defective and obstructed drains. In Wingate, twenty in eighteen houses, mostly mild: four in houses beside an offensive ditch; four with defective drains; three by direct infection and one from outside. Hutton Henry had two mild cases with no history. Seaham had five, all severe: one in a damp house and four in a house which was very satisfactory, but with no history except a possible exposure to infection. All these discovered defects have been dealt with and have been remedied or are having attention for that object.

MEMBRANOUS CROUP.—Five cases of this were notified: one in proximity to the diphtheria; the rest quite separate, of short duration and all early fatal, suggestive of laryngismus stridulus.

ENTERIC FEVER.—The decreasing incidence of this disease on the district is the most marked and agreeable feature of the year. A glance at the following table will make this clear. It gives the number of cases, the attack rate per 1000 of population and the case mortality per cent. since the adoption of the Notification Act.

Year	No. of Cases		Rate	Mortality		
1893	...	332	...	8·07	...	12·65
1894	...	101	...	2·38	...	23·76
1895	...	87	...	2·01	...	19·54
1896	...	54	...	1·26	...	14·81
1897	...	34	...	0·89	...	20·58
1898	...	74	...	1·89	...	29·72
1899	...	33	...	0·83	...	18·18
1900	...	69	...	1·74	...	4·34
1901	...	115	...	2·80	...	12·17
1902	...	47	...	1·07	...	12·76
1903	...	35	...	0·79	...	17·13
1904	...	38	...	0·83	...	26·31

Some of them were very severe others almost trifling. The case mortality was 26·31 per cent., and combined with continued fever, with which it is sometimes mixed up, it was 19·35. There were thirty-eight cases in thirty-six houses, two houses containing multiple cases. Except these, no other cases could be proved to have any connection with each other; none were brought from outside the district and none could be traced to milk or water supply. In making special enquiry into each case, insanitary conditions were frequently discovered: sometimes a dirty house, more frequently the surroundings, and in a few instances these might be sufficient to give origin to the disease. Still, a great number of the cases appear in houses that are clean, with surroundings in every way satisfactory, and no traceable history. The worst and fatal cases were oftener found in the best and new houses. The cases in the poorest houses were often the mildest, leading to the belief that the latter were primary in their nature and that the secondary cases, got by infection, are the most severe and at the same time the most difficult to trace to their origin. This is easily conceivable when we consider the almost omnipresence of these germs and the facility afforded for their contact with food or water. The conditions for their development are heat, moisture and filth; even very little of the latter if the other conditions exist. Thus, in the first half of the year there were only four cases in the whole district, when with the same conditions but the addition of warm weather the number suddenly increased.

The order of their appearance and distribution in the district was:—In January, one case at Murton, in a clean house, with no history. In February, none. In March, one at Thornley, mild, and in a dirty house. In April, one at Murton, in a clean new house but with improperly cleaned ashpit. In May, none. In June, one at Seaham, in a clean

house, mild, and with no history. In July, five: two at Murton, where scavenging was defective and a large surface was polluted by a blocked drain; two at Wheatley Hill, near to badly cleaned ashpits and defective drainage; and one fatal case at Station Town, in a clean house, with no history. In August, three: one at Murton, with no history; and two at Wheatley Hill, in clean houses, and with no history except that one had been drinking impure water when from home. In September, eleven: one at Murton, with a dirty channel near to the door; one at Thornley, mild, with bad drainage; one at Seaham, in a clean house, with no history; one at Wheatley Hill, mild, in a new clean house, with no history; two at Station Town, one with a very close, dirty house yard, the other clean; two at Haswell, one in a clean house, with no history, the other in a house with dirty surroundings sufficient to produce it; two in Shotton, one, a man engaged for some time in the reconstruction of ashpit privies, the other at a farm, in a man who had been cleaning the sludge from a pond, the accumulated sewage of years; one at Wingate, mild, in a clean house, with no history. In October, seven: two at Thornley, both mild, in dirty houses with bad drainage; two at Wheatley Hill, both in clean houses, one mild, beside an offensive cesspool, the other severe, with no history; one at Station Town, in a clean house with a blocked sink beside the door; one at Haswell, severe, in a clean house, with no history; one at Monk Hesleden, in good houses draining into an offensive overflowing cesspool, at some distance, beside which the child spent much time in play. In November, seven: four at Murton, two in a clean house, with no history, and a second case in another house where there had been a case shortly before—the only multiple case in the year—and one in a house with a badly laid yard and blocked sink; one at Haswell, mild, in a dirty house with defective channeling in front; two at

Shotton, both in good houses, one of them very dirty. In December, one case at Station Town, mild, in a dirty house.

CONTINUED FEVER.—This was low, 0·5 per thousand of population. Like enteric fever, this was mostly in the latter part of the year, but in contradistinction to that disease it appeared in the poorest localities of the district, shewing the essential difference as to its origin. The case mortality was 8·1 per cent. and was limited to children, though the non-fatal cases occurred in persons of all ages.

DIARRHŒA.—This was not a markedly diarrhœa year, because, although hot in the latter part, it was dry. The deaths were 4·25 per cent. of total deaths, against 5·31, the average for the preceding twenty-one years, and thus favourable, but to this should be added the deaths from enteritis, which raise it to 10·78. 89 per cent. of these were of children under five years of age. They nearly all occurred in the latter half of the year and mostly the third quarter.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—The proportion of cases to births was 0·17 per cent., against 0·33, the average for the previous eleven years. The mortality was 33 per cent., against 59 for the same period. This is an improvement which with present day knowledge is to be expected.

The deaths from phthisis were 0·72 per thousand of population; from phthisis and other tubercular diseases combined, 1·34; and from all other respiratory diseases, 2·99. These figures speak well for the invigorating climate and the stamina of the population.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.—Concurrently with the steadily increasing population of the district the growth of property for its housing moves apace.

All plans for new buildings are submitted to your Plans Committee who rigorously enforce the bye-laws. All wooden floors now require a lower layer of cement with an air space between. Block plans, when necessary, are also submitted to ensure plenty of air space around buildings. One important matter is that all new houses in this district have a liberal floor area, without which ventilation without draughts cannot be obtained. All buildings before being occupied are certified by your Surveyor. Subject to these regulations plans have been passed for the following:—Murton, twenty-eight private houses of a good class, one chapel and an entertainment hall; Hawthorn, two private houses; Dalton-le-Dale, one farm house; Haswell, fifteen private houses of a very good class and one house and shop; Station Town, two houses and a Primitive Methodist church; Trimdon, four private houses; Castle Eden, eight semi-detached villas; Shotton Colliery, a school and a new inn; Horden Colliery, two houses and shops, premises for a co-operative store and a Primitive Methodist church and Sunday schools; Thornley, eight private houses and a villa; Seaton, one house; Wingate, thirty-two private houses mostly of a very good class and two shops.

There are many old houses in the district built of limestone. A few of these have been wholly pulled down to be rebuilt and many more have had alterations, additions and improvements made to them, the plans for which have also been submitted to your Committee and approved as follow:—Thornley, three houses and two inns; South Hetton, three houses and one inn; Haswell, five houses; Wingate, two houses and two inns; Murton, one house; Shotton Colliery, one house; Easington, one house. Every house in the district has a sanitary convenience of some kind attached to it now, though many still require to be improved. Plans have been passed for the erection of earth

closets to replace defective privies for houses at the following places:—Thornley, ten; South Hetton, twelve; Haswell, nine; Seaton, three; Wingate, five; Hutton Henry, one; Shotton Colliery, eighteen.

A considerable improvement in comfort, which means health, has been obtained by laying down asphalt footpaths and extending these throughout the district. The Private Streets Works Improvement Act 1892 has been adopted and been applied to Cooper's Terrace, Thornley. The benefits derived from this are considerable and require only to be further experienced to be appreciated.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—The amount of this work done increases every year, with the object of displacing open channels by covered sewers, the more effectual removal of sewage in the neighbourhood of habitations to a distance and by its purification lessening river pollution. The scheme for a drainage system to Thornley and Wheatley Hill is now completed and working. The private houses are connected by branch drains to sinks in the yards and are nearly completed. The colliery houses have sinks in the streets. The work of making these is now being proceeded with and will be continued until completion. After final collection by the mains the sewage from Wheatley Hill is pumped up to a higher level to meet that from Thornley and the whole is treated bacterially. Another scheme for the combined sewerage of Murton, Cold Hesleden, Dalton-le-Dale, South Hetton and Haswell is under consideration by your Council, and the Engineers have the matter in hand. A scheme for the treatment of the sewage from Shotton Colliery village, which is now completely sewered, is being carried out similar to that now working at Thornley and will shortly be completed. Besides taking up and relaying 600 yards of defective sewers of different sizes, mostly at Haswell, Wingate and Murton, your

Surveyor has constructed 1,815 yards of new sewers at the following places:—

HASWELL.—50 yards of 6-inch pipes to take the place of a defective open channel draining the houses in Store Square. Each of these has now a trapped sink in the yard connected by a 4-inch branch drain. The sewer enters the Haswell system.

SHOTTON COLLIERY.—100 yards of 9-inch pipes to drain the houses in Smokey Row, recently reopened after having been repaired, and 250 yards of 6-inch sewers draining the west side of Sunderland Row by trapped sinks in the yards connected by branches, both joining the main sewerage system of the village.

WINGATE.—200 yards of 15-inch pipes, 297 yards of 12-inch pipes, 160 yards of 9-inch pipes, with manholes at each junction; a complete system for that part of the village on the north side, consisting of a long row of 90 houses drained by open channels; a street with close drains and a street of cottages and detached villas in Castle Eden and abutting on the township draining by sinks in the yards and drains from inside private houses as required. The 15-inch sewer takes the place of an open offensive ditch that did duty for a sewer for the whole area.

MURTON COLLIERY VILLAGE.—75 yards of 9-inch pipes to connect store premises and a new street with the main system of the village.

THORNLEY.—93 yards of 6-inch pipes and one manhole to connect new property on the west side of the village with the new system already mentioned.

EASINGTON.—100 yards of 6-inch pipes and 120 yards of 4-inch pipes, with manholes and inspection chambers, along with settling tanks, a complete and

separate system to drain the Thorpe Infectious Hospital and separate from the system draining the village.

STATION TOWN.—370 yards of 12-inch pipes to collect the sewage from the upper part of the village and divert the old sewerage system from entering a defective field drain which flooded and polluted the surface of certain fields in its course. Along with this a manhole has been constructed in place of an offensive cesspool near to some houses.

WATER SUPPLY.—The scheme mentioned last year for the supply to Church Hesleden from the Monk Hesleden system having been sanctioned by the Local Government Board has been carried out and that village is now abundantly supplied. Horden Colliery village has now a good supply of water from the limestone similar to that obtaining in the district generally. The supply to Shotton Colliery village, which is rapidly increasing in size, is not satisfactory. Your Council have under consideration any suitable means for supplying this deficiency, but have not yet determined on the matter. A scheme for supplying some houses in the township of Sheraton from the Hutton Henry water supply has been agreed to but is not yet carried out. Several farms and separate clusters of houses still receive their supplies from suspicious shallow wells in their vicinity. Some of these are beyond the limit of supply from the sources generally in use, but it is expected that with the contemplated extensions in the district most will be eventually supplied satisfactorily. Five samples of water in use have been taken for analysis: four were found to be unsatisfactory; the fifth, though good enough at the time of analysis, was condemned on the grounds that it was occasionally liable to pollution and that at the same time a better supply was available. Arrangements have accordingly been made so that these wells shall no longer be used for domestic purposes.

INSANITARY PROPERTY.—Statutory notices under the Housing of the Working Classes Act were served on ten owners for thirty-three houses: four of these were at Shotton Colliery village and four at Haswell, all of which have been put into proper repair; twenty were at the same villages, and are at present receiving attention; two at Haswell and one at Hawthorn are also being attended to but not yet completed; for one at Thorpe a closing order was obtained from the magistrates; one at Wingate Lane was closed after notice without a magistrates' order.

Under the Public Health Act, statutory notices were served for foul conditions from liquid manure: one, a ditch; one, an escape on to a road; one from a farm; one from a slaughter house; five for sewage from dwelling houses. These were remedied by constructing drains and settling tanks as required. One notice for a foul pond near to dwellings and one for overcrowding were followed by abatement. Twenty notices were served upon occupants for keeping poultry and pigeons in the house yards, and several nuisances from untrapped sinks could only be abated by this process; one notice was also served for a cowshed.

NUISANCES.—Under the Public Health Act, 357 written informal notices were served by your Inspector for the following conditions, which have been generally abated: Dwelling Houses, foul conditions, 24, structural defects, 11, overcrowding, 6; Lodging Houses, 5; Dairies and Milkshops, 11; Cowsheds, 17; Slaughter Houses, 11; Ashpits and Privies, 76; Deposits of refuse and manure, 17; Water Closets, 8; Defective Yard Paving, 13; House Drainage, defective traps, 32, no disconnection from sewers, 6, other faults, 49; Water Supply, 17; Pigsties, 17; other nuisances, 19.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL:—In very few cases in the district is this by means of a water closet,

though this addition to a house is occasionally made. It is mostly by the dry ashpit privy system. At Seaham and Murton the cleansing work is done by the Colliery Company. In the latter village there is a good deal of private property which is cleansed by the occupants, but very unsatisfactorily both as to efficiency and frequency. For the whole of the district, besides these places, the work of cleansing is now performed by the Council by means of contracts that are let out every six months, and the work is supervised by your Inspector. Disinfectants are supplied to the contractors, and the work generally is done well. Your Council claims the right to inflict a fine when there is any remissness in the work, and it has been found necessary to do this during the year. In addition to the work done by your Council at some of the colliery villages, the work of general scavenging of the streets and channels is undertaken by the company separately at their own cost. A very great nuisance is produced by the pernicious habit of many householders throwing ashes and slops on to the roadways and footpaths. Against this, public notices have often been issued appealing to the inhabitants and threatening penalties, but I am afraid this will only be stopped by a few prosecutions with fines.

LODGING HOUSES.—There are only three of these in the district, two at Easington and one at Thornley. They are registered and regularly visited. Their general cleanliness is fairly well maintained. No case of infectious disease has occurred in any of them.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.—These are all registered and inspected. Besides one formal notice, attention was drawn to many defective conditions informally. Though these were mostly remedied, the conditions under which this trade is carried on in the district generally is not all that could be desired. In one large cowshed at a farm

the improvements required were so extensive that the occupant found it better to give up the trade altogether. Considering the value of milk as a food for infants, this is a contingency to be avoided. Two cases of infectious disease occurred at dairy farms, but effective isolation was secured.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—These are not registered but are inspected regularly, with the result that eleven notices were served for insanitary conditions discovered.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—This work engages most of your officer's time. Not only every outbreak but every individual case of the more important fevers is specially enquired into, and in conjunction with this work house-to-house visitation is conducted. It is by this means that the more important, although not apparently obvious, conditions affecting health are discovered. Specific instructions are given, both personally and by printed notice, as to isolation and disinfection. Disinfectants are freely supplied and, when necessary, disinfection performed by your Inspector or articles are burned and compensation made when considered advisable. The Infectious Hospital has been kept in constant readiness with a permanent matron and caretaker in charge, and has been increased by the addition of two wards, containing eight beds, with accommodation for extra nursing staff. It has not been so much used as in previous years, as it was the only place available for small-pox, though, fortunately, only two cases occurred; but this, considering its prevalence in the County, is the most important fever that has to be dealt with at present. After consulting with several adjoining Authorities, an arrangement has been made between this and the Sedgefield Rural District Council for the erection of a permanent joint small-pox hospital. Numerous meetings have been held by Committees of these districts for this purpose, and the work has

so far progressed that a Local Government Board enquiry was held on November 1st, and a provisional order for carrying the scheme into effect has been drafted and is now with the Local Government Board for final approval. It is to be hoped the work will proceed without further delay.

At the request of the Local Government Board I have made two special reports, one on the epidemic of measles of 1903-04, referred to under that head, and one on the outbreak of small-pox, with the result that payments made for the prevention of the spread of the latter disease, not previously permitted, are now sanctioned, with unquestionable advantage.

The offer of the County Council to make bacteriological examinations in certain diseases is frequently made use of. A case of anthrax was reported. In the haste to have the carcass disposed of securely before the disease was communicated to anyone, proof of the diagnosis was not obtained bacteriologically. Many special Committees have met to consider drainage and other schemes and other measures for improvement.

Concerning the present state of the health of the district I need only point out that the death rate, in spite of the heavy incidence of diphtheria, is the lowest on record, surely an evidence of the work carried out by your Council.

The birth rate, which was 37·18 per thousand, was lowest in the Castle Eden, or agricultural, group of townships, 29·87, and highest in Shotton, 42·74.

It will be noticed that the population has increased 2·8 per cent. on the previous year and 9·6 on the average of the previous decennium.

The following table shews the chief vital statistics for 1904 and their comparison with

that for the administrative County per thousand population:—

	Easington	Adminis- trative County
Birth Rate	37·18	35·60
Death Rate	18·18	18·30
Zymotic Death Rate	1·03	2·59
Infant Mortality (per 1000 births)	172	162
Small-pox	0·00	0·03
Scarlet Fever	0·11	0·16
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	0·33	0·29
Fever, Enteric and Continued Measles	0·26	0·15
Whooping Cough	0·17	0·55
Diarrhœa	0·11	0·43
Enteritis	0·77	0·95
Phthisis	1·19	0·38
Other Tubercular Diseases	0·72	1·07
Respiratory Diseases	0·61	0·92
	2·99	2·92

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT 1901

In obedience to section 132 of the above Act, I beg to report to you on its administration during the year 1904, according to instructions in the third issue of the memorandum from the Home Office bearing date December, 1904.

The register has been kept by your Clerk and the work of inspection has been carried out by your Medical Officer of Health assisted by your Sanitary Inspector. No factory in the district has called for the duties of your Surveyor. Every place on the register has been visited during the year. Many of the less important workshops, where only one or two men are employed, have not been visited every quarter as at first proposed, as this was found to

be unnecessary labour, but all those workshops where the number of employees is considerable, and particularly where females are employed, have been the object of regular visitation. This year, the results of inspections are returned in a tabular form issued by the Home Office, as stated, for uniformity. It will be noticed that no written notices have been served. This does not imply that no defects have been found, but that they have not been of a serious nature. Except in the case of two factories mentioned under that head, they have been limited to defects of cleanliness, neglect of white washing, more rarely of ventilation, and in places where both sexes have been employed, and where separate sanitary accommodation is provided, there has been neglect to indicate by notice in printed letters outside which was for male and which for female use, or to have them kept properly separate. Whenever this has been pointed out verbally it has been followed by the necessary remedy without delay. This has occurred in numerous cases and no further action was necessary. The absence of the Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act being affixed was several times found, when notice to that effect was sent to H.M. Inspector and the necessary Abstract was duly forwarded and posted. No further information as to the definition of workplaces has been issued from the Home Office to your officers, and they have simply proceeded as heretofore. As to section 110: as the Notification of Infectious Diseases Acts is in force in the district, such a violation can easily be discovered, but in no case has it been known to occur.

FACTORIES. The number of these in the district is unchanged—twelve. In six, persons of both sexes are employed. Sanitary accommodation is provided in all, but in only four for males and females separately. In the two remaining cases, one is at work irregularly, in the other proper provision has been promised.

DOMESTIC FACTORIES. There are still none of these in the district.

WORKSHOPS. These are under supervision and regular inspection has been made under the various heads mentioned in the memorandum already referred to.

(1) SANITARY CONDITIONS. (a) Cleanliness (sec. 2); (b) Air Space (sec. 2 and 3); (c) Ventilation (sec. 2 and 7); (d) Drainage of floors where wet processes are carried on (sec. 8); (e) Sanitary Accommodation (sec. 22). These matters have all been generally seen to and no serious violation of these regulations has been discovered. A few defects have been noticed but have been generally remedied after verbal notice.

(2) BAKEHOUSES. There are only two of these in the district, both retail, and not underground, and complying with every section of the Act as to noncommunication with water closet, earth closet, privy or ashpit, limewashing, painting and general cleanliness, and separation from sleeping places. The same conditions exist as formerly as to the distribution of bread baked in private houses and sold in public. The ordinary sanitary supervision is exercised over these places as to cleanliness and existence of infectious diseases.

(3) HOME WORK and (4) LIST OF OUTWORKERS. There is no occupation in the district requiring supervision under these heads.

WORKPLACES. In the absence of further definition, these have been inspected and regulated as to general sanitary conditions in all cases where young persons or females of any age are collected or engaged for the purpose of work for hire of any kind whatever.

I append an abstract of the register kept by your Clerk to date of all factories, workshops, bake-houses and workplaces in the district.

FACTORIES—

Brickmaking	...	...	...	...	7
Beer bottling and ærated waters	...			...	2
Electricity generating	...	...	...	...	1
Cartwright	...	...	...	...	1
Quarry	...	...	...	...	1
					— 12

WORKSHOPS—

Joiners and Cartwrights	...	...	...	...	9
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	14
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	31
Cobblers	...	...	...	...	10
Cabinetmakers	...	...	...	...	9
Milliners	...	...	...	...	10
Tailors	...	...	...	...	4
Saddlers	...	...	...	...	2
Watch and Clock Repairer	...			...	1
Coachpainters	...	...	...	...	2
					— 92

WORKPLACES—

Drapery	...	...	...	...	1
Grocery and Drapery	...	...	...	...	9
Beer bottling	...	...	...	...	2
					— 12

BAKEHOUSES	...	...	...	...	2
					— 2

Total...118

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES ARTHUR,

L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., D.P.H.R.C.P.E.,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Easington Rural District Council.

TABLE I

EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

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 located in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions located in the District	NET DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number	* Rate	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages					Number	* Rate
				Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number	* Rate					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1894	42,441	1,624	38.26	284	174	791	18.62	19	6			
1895	43,097	1,747	40.53	318	182	842	19.53	29	11			
1896	42,563	1,642	38.57	287	174	795	18.63	37	11	10	794	18.61
1897	38,066	1,470	38.61	251	170	694	18.23	33	13	13	694	18.23
1898	39,097	1,430	35.57	247	172	724	18.51	34	16	13	721	18.44
1899	39,293	1,372	34.91	276	201	746	18.72	24	6	14	754	19.18
1900	40,194	1,428	35.52	238	166	739	18.38	35	13	13	739	18.38
1901	40,997	1,656	40.39	312	188	837	20.41	35	9	23	851	20.75
1902	43,761	1,659	37.91	282	169	797	18.21	23	7	24	814	18.60
1903	44,117	1,640	37.17	272	165	794	17.99	22	1	19	812	18.40
Averages for years 1894-1903	41,361	1,566	37.74	276	176	776	18.74	29	9	16	772	18.82
1904	45,363	1,687	37.18	291	172	819	18.05	32	9	15	825	18.18

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

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7 corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) } 36,940.

Total population at all ages ... 40,997 }
 Number of inhabited houses ... 7,784 }
 Average number of persons per house ... 5.26 }
 At Census of 1901

TABLE II
EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1904 and previous Years

NAMES OF LOCALITIES	EASINGTON 1				HASWELL 2				SHOTTON 3				CASTLE EDEN, HAWTHORN, BURDON, GULD, HENKEDEN, DALTON-LE-DALE 4				EAST MURTON 5				KELLOE AND THORSLEY 6				WINGATE 7				MONK HESLUDEN, HUTTON HENRY, SHERRATON, HULAM, NESBIT 8				SEAHAM, SEATON, SLINGLEY 9			
	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year				
YEAR	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1894	1,639	47	41	8	6,799	252	113	35	2,385	90	44	10	3,063	75	23	4	5,225	226	112	47	3,768	165	78	24	6,762	304	132	55	6,165	253	120	51	6,635	212	128	50
1895	1,656	40	53	8	6,846	270	131	37	2,385	102	41	24	3,063	88	31	16	5,372	257	109	45	3,872	153	91	30	7,103	362	154	68	6,165	240	119	46	6,635	235	113	44
1896	1,682	40	50	2	6,846	234	117	43	2,385	105	41	11	3,063	78	21	8	5,412	246	118	49	3,872	161	75	23	7,503	362	165	62	5,165	214	98	43	6,635	202	110	46
1897	1,489	38	48	5	4,662	205	83	28	1,213	43	13	1	3,129	78	25	4	5,412	253	120	47	3,898	166	99	32	7,580	338	129	58	4,541	162	69	33	6,142	187	108	43
1898	1,547	40	64	4	5,616	192	97	36	1,090	33	20	3	3,238	68	33	8	5,664	246	104	41	3,908	176	96	40	7,974	355	154	63	3,918	126	61	17	6,142	194	105	35
1899	1,480	41	45	6	5,407	187	135	46	1,302	27	15	1	3,071	69	33	11	5,764	255	120	38	3,888	156	75	22	8,000	325	167	67	4,218	138	69	28	6,168	174	97	37
1900	1,606	57	36	8	5,928	184	101	30	1,773	47	36	9	3,094	83	45	9	5,943	249	105	45	3,978	154	74	18	7,706	321	146	52	4,628	142	100	35	5,338	191	98	32
1901	1,731	47	41	8	5,512	229	87	28	2,324	87	45	13	3,300	111	59	12	6,541	296	133	52	3,989	154	89	34	8,005	347	166	72	4,051	164	106	42	5,544	221	125	51
1902	2,060	59	46	12	5,800	239	127	47	3,040	99	53	20	3,239	121	44	13	6,715	292	130	51	3,784	157	96	35	8,091	334	144	52	5,349	163	70	19	5,683	195	104	33
1903	1,990	46	28	6	6,180	229	100	33	3,708	136	86	32	3,008	101	53	14	6,401	279	119	41	3,908	147	77	26	8,043	342	192	71	5,196	167	83	26	5,683	193	74	23
Averages of Years 1894 to 1903	1,688	45	45	6.7	5,959	222	108	36	2,160	77	39	12	3,127	87	36	10	5,844	259	117	45	3,886	160	85	28	7,676	339	154	62	4,940	177	89	34	6,080	200	106	39
1904	2,067	67	39	10	6,417	225	128	41	4,234	181	90	33	3,113	93	56	27	6,501	262	120	35	4,034	169	60	24	8,553	324	151	65	5,279	179	86	25	5,165	187	95	31

NOTE.—(a) Deaths of residents occurring beyond the district are included in sub-columns c of this table, and those of non-residents registered in the district excluded.
(b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions are allotted to the respective localities, according to addresses of the deceased.

Сарава ол. тундундун эл. цоорун олтууну асар 1904

ЕВРАЙСКОЙ КНИЖНИЦЫ

1904