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BOROUGH OF ECCLES.

Annual Report

OF THE

— MEDICAL —

Officers of Health,

FOR THE YEAR 1894,

— BY C. H. TATTERSALL, —

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.LON., : L. S. SC.,

(JANUARY 1ST TO MARCH 31ST, 1894),

AND J. H. CROCKER. M.D.,

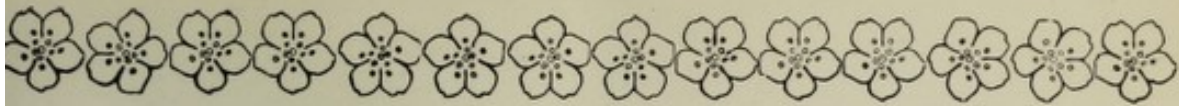
CH.B., D.S.SC., M.R.C.S., ETC.

—(APRIL 1ST TO DEC. 31ST, 1894)—

Eccles

WM. BOGG, GENERAL PRINTER, "MINERVA" WORKS, 167, CHURCH ST.,





TO THE
SANITARY COMMITTEE
OF THE

—‡‡ Borough of Eccles. ‡‡—

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you the report of the sanitary condition of your district for 1894, prepared in compliance with the orders of and on the lines indicated by the Local Government Board. In April you appointed me as Medical Officer of Health for this Borough, Dr. Tattersall having received the appointment of Medical Officer of Health for the County Borough of Oldham.

The lines so thoroughly and ably laid down by Dr. Tattersall for the improvement of the sanitary condition of this district have been followed as far as possible.

Unfortunately the various trades have not been very flourishing throughout the year, and although building operations have been moderately brisk, there are many empty houses in the district. There were 339 empty houses at the middle of the year against 221 in 1893, and 288 when the census was taken in 1891.

My thanks are due to Mr. Superintendent Bent for the information regarding the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and legal proceedings taken; and to Mr. Ald. Spary, J.P. for particulars of the Recreation Grounds, Baths, and Cemetery.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. CROCKER,

Town Hall, Eccles,

January, 1895.

M.D., D.S.SC., &c.

Section I.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1894.

Population estimated to the middle of the year	... ..	31,980
Births—Males, 456 ; Females, 422...	... .. Total	878
Annual Rate of Births per 1,000 of Population		27·1
Deaths—Males, 222 ; Females, 221	... ..	443
Annual Rate of Mortality per 1,000 of		
	Population	13·7
Excess of Registered Births over Deaths	...	435
Estimated Annual Increase of Population	...	782
Density.—The Mean Density of the Borough is equal to		15·9
persons per acre. In Barton Ward		13·3. Eccles
Ward 48. Irwell Ward		28·5. Monton
and Park Ward		8·3. Patricroft Ward
36. Winton Ward		9 persons per acre.
Area.—The total area of the Borough of Eccles is	... ..	2,008 acres.

Section II.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Estimated Population.—To arrive at a correct estimate of the population has been somewhat difficult, as since the completion of the Ship Canal many employees have departed from this district. The total number of occupied houses has been taken and multiplied by 5, this being the average number of inhabitants per house at the last census. This shows a population of 31,980, whereas if the rate of increase had been taken equal to the average increase between the census periods 1881 and 1891, it would be 32,147. The Registrar General estimated the population at the middle of the year as 32,000.

TABLE I.

Shewing Acreage, Number of Houses, & Population in Various Wards.

Ward.	Acreage.	Inhabited Houses, 1894	Inhabited Houses, 1891	Empty Houses, 1894	Empty Houses, 1891	Population.	
						Estimated 1894	Census 1891.
BARTON	378	1005		87		5025	
ECCLES... ..	106	1025		55		5125	
IRWELL	167	954		38		4770	
MONTON and PARK	528	998		33		4990	
PATRICROFT ...	170	1225		49		6125	
WINTON	659	1189		77		5945	
TOTALS FOR THE BOROUGH	2008	6396	5931	339	266	31980	29606

Births.—The number of births registered during the year was 878 against 903 for 1893. Of these 456 were males, and 422 females; this shows a birth rate of 27·1 per thousand of the population, against 28·4 for 1893.

There were 34 births registered as illegitimate being 3·87 per cent of the total births.

The following Table shows the births and deaths in the various wards :

TABLE II.
Births and Deaths for the different Wards and Institutions.

WARDS	Total Deaths.	Death rate per 1,000.	Total Births.	Birth rate per 1,000.
BARTON... ..	73	14·5	171	34·0
ECCLES... ..	53	10·3	118	23·0
IRWELL... ..	57	11·9	128	26·8
MONTON and PARK	41	8·2	92	18·4
PATRICROFT ...	81	13·2	181	29·5
WINTON	72	12·1	188	31·6
Barton Union Workhouse	63			
Eccles & Patri- croft Hospital	3			
TOTAL FOR THE BOROUGH	443	*13·7	878	27·1

* Corrected after adding two deaths occurring outside the Borough, and deducting 27 deaths at the Workhouse and Hospital belonging to out townships.

DEATHS.—The deaths from all causes were 443. Of these 222 were males, and 221 were females.

There were 63 deaths in the Workhouse, 26 of these belonged to outside districts. Three deaths in the Eccles and Patricroft Hospital, one belonging to Irlam district. Two deaths of patients belonging to this district occurred in the Ladywell Sanatorium. After correcting for the above, the **Death-rate** for the year is 13·7 per thousand of the population.

TABLE III.
Deaths which occurred within the district of persons not belonging thereto.

Place of Death.	From Stretford	From Worsley	From Swinton.	From Clifton.	From Flixton.	From Pendle'y	From London.	From Manch't	From Irlam.	Not known.	TOTAL.
Union Workhouse.	8	8	3	1	1	1	1	1		2	26
E. & P. Hospital.									1		1
TOTAL ...											

Notwithstanding that the general death-rate of the country was low in 1894, the remarkably low death rate of this Borough is a source of satisfaction following on the endeavours you have put forward for improved sanitation, &c.

The death-rate last year (1893) was 18·6; for 1892 it was 18·1, and in 1891 it was 22·3.

The summer of 1894 was far more favourable for this district than that of 1893, there being more rain and a lower temperature, the deaths from diarrhoea in the summer, and typhoid fever in the autumn, being much more numerous when we have a hot dry summer.

In Table II. the death-rates of the various Wards are shewn, Monton and Park Ward being singularly fortunate with only a death-rate of **8.2** per 1,000 of population. The death-rate for this Ward last year was 11.5, and in 1892 it was 9.5.

TABLE IV.
Monthly Return of Births and Deaths.

	DEATHS.										BIRTHS.												
	Cancer.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Fever.	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever	Influenza	Phthisis	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Injuries	Croup.	Erysipelas.	All other Diseases	Males	Females	Total	Illegitimate.			
January ...	1	.....	4	.....	1	.....	.....	2	8	9	5	.....	.....	.....	1	25	21	36	57	46	38	84	5
February ...	1	.....	2	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	5	5	2	1	1	.....	.....	17	17	19	36	32	33	65	2
March ...	1	2	.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	3	8	5	.....	.....	.....	1	24	23	24	47	40	34	74	7
April ...	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	1	6	6	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	23	19	42	38	36	74	2
May ...	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	6	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	6	11	17	36	34	70	3
June ...	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21	11	16	27	44	35	79	1
July ...	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2	3	.....	1	.....	.....	13	16	11	27	41	47	88	1
August ...	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	5	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	16	14	30	45	30	75	2
September ...	1	1	.....	1	.....	1	1	1	2	11	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	15	24	14	38	34	23	57	1
October ...	2	1	.....	1	1	1	.....	1	5	7	3	.....	.....	.....	1	12	17	20	37	31	36	67	2
November ...	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2	8	1	.....	1	.....	.....	17	20	14	34	41	34	75	3
December ...	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	9	2	1	1	.....	.....	29	27	24	51	28	42	70	5
TOTALS ...	11	6	7	7	2	7	3	6	46	75	26	3	4	3	217	221	456	443	443	456	422	878	34

Mortality in Age Groups :

Deaths under one year	...	...	125
Do. 1 year and under 5 years	...	...	58
Do. 5 " " 15 " "	...	...	16
Do. 15 " " 25 " "	...	...	21
Do. 25 " " 65 " "	...	...	128
Do. over 65	...	...	95
			443

Infantile Mortality.—The total number of deaths under one year was 125, this is at the rate of 142 per thousand births, last year it was 192 and in 1892 it was 167.

Zymotic Death-rate.—The number of deaths due to the seven "Principal Zymotic Diseases" usually classified under this heading was 49. This gives a zymotic death-rate of 1'47 per thousand of population, that for 1893 being 2'5, and in 1892 it was 1'1.

There were no deaths from **Small-pox or Measles.**

Scarlet Fever.—Six deaths were due to this disease, two occurring in Hospital.

Diphtheria.—Seven deaths were due to this disease.

Enteric or Typhoid!Fever.—Seven deaths.

Whooping Cough.—Seven deaths.

Diarrhœa and Dysentery.—Twenty deaths.

For the "case mortality" of the above diseases refer to the section on **Infectious Diseases.**

Influenza.—Sporadic cases of this disease have occurred throughout the year, and six deaths were attributed to it.

Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.—The deaths from these diseases number 74 or 2'3 per thousand of population. Last year the death-rate was 3'5 per thousand for these diseases.

Phthisis.—The total number of deaths attributed to this disease was 47, shewing a death rate of 1'47 per thousand of population. Last year it was 1'2 and the quinquennial period 1886 to 1891, the average was 1'6 per 1,000 of population.

Inquests.—There were 21 inquests held in the Borough on deaths due to accidents, suicide, &c.

TABLE V.
Death Rate compared with Urban Districts.
 England and Wales, Lancashire, and 33 English Towns.

	Death rate per 1000.					Zymotic Rate per 1000.					Deaths under 1 year in proportion to 1000 Births				
	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894.	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
England and Wales	20.7	20.9	19.5	20.1		2.03	1.83	1.9	2.4		151	149	148	159	
Urban Districts.															
Lancashire	18.9	21.7	19.34	20.3		2.06	2.33	1.86	3.0		158	160	155	183	
Urban Districts.															
33 Large English Towns... (Average).	21.2	21.1	20.6	21.5		2.73	2.33	2.64	3.2		172	167	163	181	
ECCLES	19.4	22.4	17.2	18.6	13.7	2.0	3.17	1.14	2.5	1.47	159	177	167	192	142

TABLE VI.

Total Deaths and Death-rates from all causes.

Children under 5 years of age. Zymotic and Pulmonary Diseases.

For the Years 1873—1894.

Corrected to 1891 according to ascertained Population.

Year.	Total Deaths	Rate per 1000	Zymotic Disease	Rate per 1000	Deaths under 5	Rate per cent.	Phthisis	Rate per 1000	Acute Chest Diseases	Rate per 1000.
1873	423	25.4	66	3.9	158	37.5	53	3.1	100	6.0
1877	440	22.7	80	4.6	175	40.0	46	2.3	84	4.3
1878	443	22.2	68	3.4	196	44.2	49	2.4	90	4.5
1879	396	19.2	28	1.3	177	43.8	60	2.9	116	5.6
1880	427	20.5	87	4.0	176	43.7	59	2.7	96	4.5
5 years average	427	22.0	67	3.4	176	41.8	53	2.6	97	4.9
1881	383	17.4	56	2.5	155	40.4	66	3.0	70	3.1
1882	434	19.0	59	2.5	190	49.0	46	2.0	113	4.9
1883	371	15.7	53	2.2	173	47.0	45	1.9	90	3.8
1884	399	16.4	83	3.4	181	45.0	41	1.6	87	3.5
1885	419	16.6	54	2.1	157	37.0	46	1.8	91	3.6
5 years average	401	17.0	61	2.5	171	43.6	48	2.0	90	3.7
1886	419	16.1	47	1.8	186	44.1	40	1.5	93	3.5
1887	475	17.8	90	3.3	219	42.6	41	1.5	127	4.7
1888	437	15.9	54	1.9	183	41.8	49	1.7	100	3.6
1889	465	16.4	79	2.7	213	45.8	49	1.7	93	3.2
1890	603	20.8	50	1.7	218	36.1	50	1.7	142	4.9
5 years average	479	17.4	64	2.2	203	42.0	45	1.6	111	3.9
1891	683	22.3	94	3.1	292	42.7	43	1.4	143	4.7
1892	554	18.1	35	1.1	205	37.0	50	1.6	93	3.0
1893	608	18.6	82	2.5	247	40.6	39	1.2	113	3.5
1894	443	13.7	49	1.47	183	41.3	47	1.47	74	2.3

TABLE of DEATHS during the Year 1894, in the Borough of Eccles (Urban District).
Classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Wards and Institutions. (a.)	Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.						Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under 5 years of age.													Total					
	At all Ages (b.)	Under 1 Year (c.)	1 and under 5 (d.)	5 and under 15 (e.)	15 and under 25 (f.)	25 and under 65 (g.)	65 and upwards (h.)	(i.)	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Puerperal fever.	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhea & Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever	Phtisis		Bronchitis & Pneumonia	Heart Disease	Injuries	All Other Diseases	
																									1
BARTON	73	25	9	...	3	24	12	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	3	...	...	2	4	...	...	9	7	...	...	...	21	34
ECCLES	53	12	9	2	3	15	12	Under 5 upwards	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	5	...	...	...	10	21
IRWELL	57	20	7	3	6	11	10	Under 5 upwards	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	4	5	...	...	...	18	32
MONTON	41	4	5	2	3	14	13	Under 5 upwards	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	16	27
PATRICROFT	81	28	15	2	3	15	18	Under 5 upwards	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	3	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	13	30
WINTON	72	29	12	6	1	18	6	Under 5 upwards	1	1	2	...	1	...	1	7	...	...	4	7	...	...	...	4	9
BARTON UNION WORKHOUSE.	63	7	1	1	2	29	23	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	4	11	3	1	...	6	8
ECCLES & PATRICROFT HOSPITAL.	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	Under 5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS. ...	443	125	58	16	21	128	95	Under 5 upwards	3	5	3	7	2	2	7	19	...	...	8	36	...	...	...	99	183
									3	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	3	39	38	24	3	...	136	260

The subjoined Numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the District among persons belonging thereto.	2	...	2	Under 5 upwards	2	2
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.	27	1	1	1	..	14	10	Under 5 upwards	1	2	5	...	1	...	17	25	

Section III.

**RECORD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES & MEASURES
TAKEN TO PREVENT THEIR SPREAD.**

Notification of Infectious Diseases....The total number of cases notified during the year was 421, against 478 last year, and 149 in 1892. As will be seen by the Tables, the majority of notifications were of Scarlet fever, which has existed throughout the whole year. On three occasions Small-pox was brought into the district, but, fortunately, no secondary cases occurred.

All the notifications were by medical practitioners, with the exception of one case of Scarlet fever notified by the father of the patient.

TABLE VIII.---Zymotic Diseases.

Diseases.	1891.		1892.		1893.		1894.	
	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths	Cases Notified	Deaths
SMALL-POX					10		3	
SCARLET FEVER ...	44	4	86	2	315	9	311	6
DIPHTHERIA... ..	29	3	29	7	43	6	36	7
CROUP							2	4
ENTERIC FEVER ...	31	7	34	3	72	8	34	7
PUERPERAL FEVER	5				9	2	6	2
MEASLES		40		8		7		
WHOOPIING COUGH		32		3		10		7
DIARRHŒA and } DYSENTERY ... }		8		12		38		20
ERYSIPELAS					29	2	29	3
TOTAL	109	94	149	35	478	82	421	56

TABLE IX
Monthly Return of Notifications of Infectious Diseases.

	Membranous Croup.	Scarlet Fever	Small-pox.	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Pueperal fev'r	Erysipelas.	Totals
January ..		17		6	1	1	1	26
February.	1	23		7	2	1	5	39
March.....		26	1	6	2	1	1	37
April		23	1	3	5		1	33
May	1	43	1		...		1	46
June		38		1	5	1	1	46
July.....		24		1	4		2	31
August ...		18		4	5		4	31
September		40		1	2	1	3	47
October ..		29		1	2	1	5	38
November		19		3	3		1	26
December		11		3	3		4	21
TOTALS ...	2	311	3	36	34	6	29	421

TABLE X.
Distribution of Infectious Diseases into Wards.

Diseases.	BARTON		ECCLES		IRWELL.		MONTON OF PARK.		PATRI- CROFT.		WINTON.	
	Total Notified	Total Deaths.	Total Notified.	Total Deaths.	Total Notified.	Total Deaths.	Total Notified.	Total Deaths.	Total Notified.	Total Deaths.	Total Notified.	Total Deaths.
SMALL-POX					1		1		1			
SCARLET FEVER	27		68	1	100		45	3	50	1	21	1
DIPHThERIA	2		2	1	1		10	3	15	1	6	2
ENTERIC FEVER	10	3	5	1	5	2			9	1	5	
PUERPERAL FEVER ...					1		1	1	1		3	1
MEMBRANOUS CROUP ..				1	1				1			3
WHOOPING COUGH ...		2								4		1
DIARRHŒA and DYSENTERY. }		4		1		4				4		7
ERYSIPELAS	6		2	1	6		1		10	1	4	
TOTAL	45	9	77	6	115	6	58	7	87	12	39	15

Amount of Hospital Isolation of Infectious Diseases....There were 72 cases of Infectious Diseases removed to the Hospitals at Mode Wheel, Ladywell, and Pendlebury, namely : 3 cases of Smallpox, 62 cases of Scarlet Fever, 1 case of Diphtheria, and 6 of Enteric Fever. Thus 17 per cent of the notified cases were removed. Last year there were 62 removals, in 1892 there were 10, and in 1891 none were removed.

Disinfection of Premises....Fumigation with sulphur has been carried out in every case, and stripping of paper and limewashing advised, but not insisted on in all cases. The attention of the committee has been called to this, and the following suggestions are about to be adopted. Spraying walls, ceilings, &c. with a disinfectant, preferably corrosive sublimate solution, in every case the paper to be stripped, the walls and ceilings limewashed when possible, the floors, all wood work, iron work, bedsteads, &c. thoroughly washed with soap and water, with washing soda in the water.

Disinfection of Bedding, &c... In all cases taken to Hospital, the bedding &c. has been taken and disinfected in the steam disinfector at Ladywell. It is advisable that this should be carried out in all cases of Infectious Diseases, and now the Salford Authorities have reduced the terms to £5 for each dozen lots it is possible, their previous charge of £1 1s. for each lot being decidedly prohibitive.

Preventive Measures in Schools....Whenever an infectious case occurs in a house where any of the children attend school, the schoolmaster is notified of the illness, and requested not to admit any one from the house until receiving a notice from the Sanitary Authority that it is free from infection. Besides this, special circulars on Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, have been forwarded to the masters and mistresses of every school in the borough, public and private, and thanks are due for the very great assistance rendered in every case.

Prevalence and Distribution of Zymotic Diseases.

Smallpox....In March a case was reported from the common lodging-house in Patricroft, the patient being a tramp who had come from Hyde the previous night. I saw the patient and had him removed to Mode Wheel at once, the room in which he slept was fumigated, the bedding destroyed, the walls, ceilings, &c. limewashed and the floor thoroughly washed. Thirteen men had slept in the same room or been in contact with this patient and re-vaccination was urged on them, but not one would consent; within a fortnight these had all disappeared from the neighbourhood, leaving no clue as to their destination, probably to fall ill in some other district, and there disseminate the disease, and be a great expense on the rates. Re-vaccination should be compulsory, at least in such cases, if only from an economical point of view.

A register was kept at each of the lodging-houses of all who slept there, with particulars where they came from and their destination, which was generally unknown.

At the end of April I learnt from a private source that a possible case of modified small-pox had been attending at a large office in Manchester, and as two clerks from this office were ill in this Borough, the medical attendants in each case were informed of the possible nature of the illness, with the result that directly the rash appeared each case was removed to Mode Wheel, everyone who had been in contact was re-vaccinated, and disinfection, fumigation, &c., were thoroughly carried out. No cases followed on these.

The Medical Officer of Health for Hyde was informed of the case that came from there, and where he had slept in that town.

Information regarding the other cases was sent to the Medical Officer of Health for Manchester, and I learnt that the boy suspected had only been one day at home and had seen no doctor, but the history of the sores on his face and the fact that his mother developed small-pox just after this ailment, leave little doubt of the nature of his illness.

Scarlet Fever.—This disease has been in evidence during the whole year, generally of a mild type; out of 311 cases notified there have been only 6 deaths, shewing a case mortality of 19 per 1,000. Sixty-two cases were removed to Hospital, or 20 per cent against 13 per cent last year. The mildness of some of the attacks unfortunately allowed of several cases being about until desquamation shewed the nature of the illness. In November a letter was sent to the teachers of the various schools, requesting frequent examination of the hands, &c. of the pupils, as to any evidence of peeling. This has been done but no series of cases could be traced to the schools directly, although the rise in the number of notifications after the summer holidays was suggestive. Several of the schools were disinfected and cleansed during the holidays.

A Report on this disease was presented to the Sanitary Committee, and suggestions were made which, briefly summarised, are as follows:

1....Removal of more cases, and particularly immediate removal of first cases in a household, and where the Medical Officer of Health considers it advisable, at the expense of the rates.

2....Disinfection of all bedding, &c. in the Steam Disinfector.

3....More efficient disinfection of dwellings.

4....Suitable mackintosh or special clothes for the man who disinfects.

These improvements have received the sanction of the Committee, and are to come into full operation in April next.

Diphtheria.—This disease has been most prevalent in Monton and Patricroft Wards, and chiefly at the beginning of the year ; in many cases damp and insanitary surroundings were found and remedied. There were 36 cases notified and 7 deaths, showing a case mortality of 190 per 1000. One case was removed to Hospital. Recent evidence has shown that this disease is “catching” from a patient for a long period after apparent convalescence. Last year the number of notifications was 43.

As a result of a discussion introduced by Councillor Dr. Hamilton at the August meeting, and of information gained by the representatives of the Committee, who attended the Congress of the British Institute of Public Health, a copy of the following Circular was sent to the teachers of all the Schools in the Borough :—

BOROUGH OF ECCLES,
Town Hall,

August 17th, 1894.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM.

As two cases of Diphtheria have recently occurred in the Borough, the Sanitary Committee think it advisable that your attention should be called to the following :—

Last month a Congress was held in London, in connection with the British Institute of Public Health, at which delegates from Sanitary Authorities in all parts of the British Isles, New York, India, &c. were present.

An important discussion on Diphtheria took place, and the following statements were made .—

1. Of recent years there has been a gradual increase of Diphtheria in Towns.
2. In many cases Diphtheria is preceded by several cases of ordinary sore throat.
3. The *cause* of the disease is a vegetable parasite which may grow on the throat or tonsils.
4. Repeated breathing of these germs from one person to another may increase their virulence.
5. The ages at which this increase of Diphtheria has occurred, are those during which compulsory attendance at school is required.

The Sanitary Committee consider these important facts should be made known to all teachers, and would suggest—

1. That all cases of sore throat—simple or otherwise—be excluded from School—especially when Diphtheria is threatening in the district.
2. That all children from an infected household, even though themselves not suffering, be excluded until the recovery of the patient.
3. That in the absence of a Scholar suffering from sore throat and not under medical treatment, information to this effect should be given to the Medical Officer of Health, as it will enable an inquiry to be made into the sanitary surroundings of the patient.

It is hoped by the exclusion of individuals from school that an epidemic may be checked, and the more stringent measure of closing the schools rendered unnecessary, the latter course so seriously interfering with the general education of the children, and affecting the Government grant.

It is intended in future to notify to all Schools whenever an epidemic of any Infectious disease threatens in the district, and it is hoped that by means of the co-operation of the teachers with the Sanitary Committee, a check will be given to the spread of any disease through the medium of the Schools.

By order of the Sanitary Committee,

Croup.—Four deaths were registered as due to this disease.

Enteric or Typhoid Fever.—34 cases were notified and 7 deaths occurred, shewing a case mortality of 206 per 1000. Six cases were removed to Hospital. Last year 72 cases were notified, 34 in 1892, and 31 in 1891. This disease was most prevalent in the Barton and Patricroft Wards, Foul privy middens or insanitary surroundings were found in connection with most of these cases.

The delegates from this Borough who attended the Congresses of the British Institute of Public Health and the Sanitary Institute as before-mentioned, in their report, recommended that special pails be provided for the reception of the excretions, &c. from patients suffering from this disease, together with a free supply of solution of corrosive sublimate to disinfect, the contents to be either cremated or removed to the tips each day, and there buried in lime, as there is little doubt that many cases arise from the privy middens being contaminated by previous sufferers from this disease.

Puerperal Fever.—Six cases were notified and two deaths registered as due to this disease. A monthly nurse who attended one of these cases had her clothes disinfected, and bathed herself thoroughly and resumed her attendance on lying-in cases with no bad result to the patients.

Whooping Cough.—Seven deaths were due to this complaint

Diarrhœa and Dysentery.—Twenty deaths were registered as due to diarrhœa, against 38 last year, 12 in 1892, and 8 in 1891.

Erysipilas.—29 cases were notified, and 3 deaths attributed to this disease. Insanitary surroundings were found in most of the cases.

Influenza.—Several cases have cropped up throughout the year, and six deaths were registered as due to this complaint. Last year there were 19 deaths, 7 in 1892, and 19 in 1891.

Phthisis.—Forty-seven deaths were registered as due to this disease showing a rate of 1·4 per 1,000 of the population. Last year there were 39 deaths or a rate of 1·2 per 1,000. Disinfection of the premises in some of these cases has been carried out by the Corporation officials.

Measures taken to prevent the Spread of Infectious Diseases.—The routine measures adopted to prevent the spread of Infectious diseases in the Borough are described in last year's report page 16.

TABLE XI.

Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1894 in the Borough of Eccles, Urban District Classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Localities.	Population at all ages		Registered Births	Aged under 5 or over 5	New cases of Sickness in each locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.							Cases Removed to Hospital			
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1894			Small-pox.	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membran's Croup	Enteric or Typhoid fr	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas	Small-pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Enteric or Typhoid fr.
BARTON.....		5025	171	Under 5... 5 upwards	8 19	2		10		6				4	
ECCLES		5125	118	Under 5... 5 upwards	22 46	2		5		1 1		6 18			
IRWELL		4770	128	Under 5... 5 upwards	40 1 60	1	1	5	1	6	1	5 15		1	
MONTON ...		4990	92	Under 5... 5 upwards	12 1 33	5 5			1	1	1	1 11			
PATRICROFT		6125	181	Under 5... 5 upwards	15 1 34	1 14	1	9	1	10	1	1 2		1	
WINTON - ...		5945	188	Under 5... 5 upwards	7 14	3 3		1 4		3 4		3	1		
Barton Union Workhouse				5 upwards	1										
TOTALS...	29606	31980	878	Under 5... 5 upwards	3 104 207	10 26	2	33	6	1 28	3	13 49	1	6	

The "Notification of Infectious Disease" has been compulsory in the district since 1889. The isolation hospitals used by the sick of the district are the Lady Well Sanatorium and Mode Wheel Hospital, Salford, and the Children's Hospital, Pendlebury.

Section IV.

ORDINARY SANITARY WORK of the HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Staff.—In May, MR. C. W. LASKEY, Cer: San: Insp: was appointed Chief Inspector in place of Mr. Burton, and he is assisted by Inspector NORMAN and a man to disinfect premises, and aid in the examination of Drains, &c.

Systematic Inspection.—This has been actively carried out during the past year. There have been 2953 inspections of nuisances in course of abatement, 964 houses inspected, 970 visits to houses where zymotic cases existed, 315 disinfections of rooms, schools, &c., 191 tests of drains by the smoke test, besides systematic inspections of Common Lodging Houses, Slaughter Houses, Bakehouses, Milk Shops, &c. A summary is given at the end of this section.

Abatement of Nuisances under the Public Health Act.—The table of "Particulars of Work done" shews the number and variety of the nuisances which have been abated during the year 1894. Some of these of course were measures of a temporary character only, but a large proportion were measures of an established kind which were more or less permanently abated. Among matters dealt with were house drains, gully traps, soil pipes, slopstone pipes, water closets, overcrowding, &c., to the number of 1557.

Vans, Tents, & Sheds.—In March some of the vans in connection with travelling shows at Patricroft were inspected on account of the Small-pox case having tramped behind them from Hyde, but no infectious cases were found.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—There are 23 Cowsheds, and 53 Dairies registered in the Borough, all of which have been regularly inspected. There were 11 applications for registration of milkshops, of which 7 were granted. The Committee do not register, until the place has been inspected and reported as satisfactory, and they receive a promise that nothing of a contaminating nature will be kept or stored in the shop.

One application for registration of a cowshed was received, and after some structural alterations had been carried out, granted.

No diseases were traced to the milk supply of the district.

At one farm it was suggested the pump should be done away with, and Manchester water laid on, which is being done.

Nuisances Remedied.—One floor repaired, in two cases walls and ceilings cleansed and lime-washed.

Bakehouses.—A notice with the salient points of the Factory and Workshops Acts was sent to every baker and confectioner in the Borough, and after due time a systematic inspection was made, and all particulars as to position of bakehouse, size, structure, lime-washing; number, sex, and age of employees, &c. were placed on record.

There are 34 bakehouses and confectioners shops.

The following is a brief summary of the Inspector's Report :

ADAPTABILITY.—Very little fault can be found with the majority of places; for the most part they are situated in cellars, which are fairly lofty, well lighted, and ventilated. In a few cases places have been specially erected. 12 bakehouses are in cellars, 11 in kitchens or other similar living rooms, 8 specially built or adapted, and 3 in sheds at the rear of the houses. Those in the kitchen are mostly places where an odd loaf, or few tea cakes are baked.

CLEANLINESS.—In most cases the bakehouses were in a very cleanly condition, and the fact that many had been lime-washed within six weeks previous to the visit of inspection, shows pretty clearly that the occupiers had taken advantage of the warning sent out by the Medical Officer of Health.

LIGHTING AND VENTILATION.—In most cases this is good.

OVERCROWDING.—No overcrowding in any case.

WOMEN, YOUNG PERSONS, & CHILDREN.—Particulars were obtained of those employed so as to forward to the Factory Inspector.

Then follow the particulars of each bakehouse.

NUISANCES REMEDIED....In two cases floors re-laid with flags, and in five cases walls and ceilings cleansed.

TABLE XII.—Bakehouses

WARDS	Bakehouses	Men Employed	Young Persons.	Women Employed	Children.
BARTON... ..	3	2	1	1	
ECCLES... ..	7	19	5	8	1
IRWELL... ..	5	5		4	
MONTON and PARK	1		1	1	
PATRICROFT ...	12	7	4	9	
WINTON	6	1	1	5	
TOTAL FOR THE BOROUGH	34	34	12	28	1

Noxious Trades... A wholesale business of tripe dressing, &c., was being carried on without the consent of the Sanitary Authority, and to the annoyance of many neighbours; this nuisance was abated upon receiving notice from the Sanitary Authority.

Common Lodging Houses... There are two registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough. A fresh tenant in the Timothy-street one was granted a license after some structural alterations had been carried out in the premises. Systematic inspections have been made, and the places found generally in good condition. Every assistance has been rendered in endeavouring to stop the spread of disease by the owners, and thanks are due to Mr. Cordingley for his promptitude in insisting upon the case of small-pox being examined and reported.

Houses Sub-let in Lodgings... Since the completion of the Ship Canal the nuisance of overcrowding, &c., in lodgings has to a great extent ceased. Bye-laws on the lines of the Model Bye-laws of the Local Government Board have been passed and sanctioned, and the Committee have left it to the discretion of the Medical Officer of Health to apply these where he thinks necessary.

Canal Boats... During the year 63 inspections were made, against 80 in 1893. The 63 boats inspected contained 69 men, 12 women, and 5 children, making a total of 86 persons. The average occupancy per boat was 1.36 persons. The number of children of school age found upon the boats was 5. No case of infectious disease was found on the boats.

TABLE XIII.
Defects, &c. found on Canal Boats.

Cabins in want of Painting.	Boats working without Certificate.	Cabin with defective Ventilation.
4	3	1

These defects, &c., were all remedied on receipt of notice from Inspector.

Sale of Food & Drugs Act... The Sanitary Authority has done nothing under this Act during the year, as it has been carried out by the County Police.

TABLE XIV.

Number of Samples.	Number sent to Public Analyst.	Description of Sample.	Result of Analysis.
20	20	New Milk	Genuine.
9	9	Butter... ..	Ditto.
1	1	Scotch Whiskey	Ditto.
2	2	Irish Whiskey	Ditto.
32	32		

Smoke Nuisance....The number of observations made in connection with factory and other trades chimneys was 44. The periods of emission of dense smoke ranged from 0 to 12½ minutes per hour. Four notices to abate nuisances therewith were served.

Chimney Firing Cases....13 cases were taken before the magistrates for this offence.

TABLE XV.

List of Cases taken before the Magistrates during the Year 1894.

Particulars of Offence.	No. of cases.	How dealt with.
Premises in such a state as to be a nuisance	2	One ordered to abate—fined 10s. & costs £1 1s. One summons withdrawn, nuisance abated, costs, 10s. 6d.
Chimney Firing—January	1	Costs, 6s.
Do. February	3	Two—costs, 6s.—one withdrawn.
Do. June	1	Fined 2s. 6d.
Do. July	2	Each fined 1s.
Do. September	2	Do. 2s. 6d.
Do. October	1	Do. 2s. 6d.
Do. November	3	Do. 5s.
TOTAL	15	

Unwholesome Meat....Periodical Inspections have been made, but no unwholesome meat has been found.

Private Slaughter Houses....There are 19 private slaughter houses in the Borough, and 34 visits have been made throughout the year. They were found generally in a satisfactory condition, considering the nature of some of the structures. One was cleansed and limewashed under notice. One application for building a slaughter-house was refused on account of the proposed building being near dwelling houses. Recently I have examined the Public Abattoirs in some of our large towns, and in Germany, and the advantages of such buildings are many. Every animal must be slaughtered in these buildings, and is examined by a Veterinary Surgeon before and after it is killed, and if any disease is suspected, a microscopic and bacteriological examination may be made. No carcase is allowed to be removed unless it has been passed by the Veterinary Surgeon, and has the official stamp. In Germany there is already a great diminution of diseases traceable to affected meat, such as Trichinosis, Tape Worms, &c., which are due to eating "measely" pork, or the flesh of animals with the larvæ of tapeworms, &c., in it, and many cases of tuber-

culosis in cattle, unsuspected during life, are recognised by such systematic examinations. It is a pity that such laws, although "made in Germany," are not enforced in this country.

Drainage Examinations....191 examinations of drains by the smoke test were made.

Inspection of Workshops....During the coming year a systematic inspection of the smaller workshops will be undertaken. The condition of the sanitary arrangements in some of the textile factories is still far from satisfactory.

TABLE XVI.
Tabulated Particulars of Work Done by the Health Department during 1894.

	1894	1893	1892
House Dains—Taken up, Cleansed, and re-laid.....	159...	87..	
Do. New Drains provided.....	32..		
Do. Slopstone Waste pipes disconnected from	14..	4..	7
Do. Bath " " ..	28..	4..	
Do. Lavatory " " ..	9..	4..	
Do. Privy Drains disconnected from	126..		
Gully Traps—Want of.....	70..	15..	8
Do. Foul Gullies Cleansed.....	17..		
Do. Defective	121..	105..	
Soil Pipes—Defective	16..	9..	
Do. do. Ventilation	19..		
Do. Bath Waste pipe disconnected from	4..		
Do. Lavatory do. 	2..		
Slopstone Waste Pipes—Defective.....	103..	79..	
Do. Want of	2..		
Water Closets—New provided	99..		
Do. Defective "pan"	10..		
Do. Out of order	3..	8..	
Do. Want of flush	3..		
Slop-water Closets stopped up.....	2..	1..	
Defective Privy pits	170..	176..	
Do. Ashpits	10..		
Do. Yards, Passages, &c.	165..	106..	
Do. Cellar floors	12..	14..	
Do. Channels	6..		
Do. Eaves Gutters].....	9..		
Do. Down Spouting	42..	37..	
Do. Roofs	5..		
Do. Middensteads	4..		
Do. Slopstones	2..		
Privy pits against houses causing nuisance, converted into W.C., or removed to the required distance from houses.....	51..	28..	14
Rain-water Pipes terminating near Windows disconnected from drains	95..	50..	
Foul and defective Urinals.....	5..		
Want of Urinals	1..		
Cesspools taken out & Drains connected direct with sewer. Yards, Cellars, &c. requiring cleansing	9..	7..	8
Damp Houses	15..		
Dirty Walls and Ceilings of dwelling-houses	5..		
Overcrowding	38..		
Accumulation of Manure and Rubbish	1..	2..	
Nuisances arising from keeping Fowls, etc	25..	9..	
Do. do. Pigs	6..		
Do. do. Pigs	2..	2..	
Backing up of Sewage	10..		
Street Gullies trapped.....	5..		
Miscellaneous	25..	6..	31
TOTALS	1557..	751..	68

W.C.'s provided in lieu of foul Privy pits.....	73...	28...
Slop-water Closets do.	26...	
Number of preliminary Notices served	347...	
Do. Sanitary Committee	138...	
Do. Cases before Magistrates	2...	

TABLE XVII.

Summary of Work done by the Inspectors in 1894.

Re-inspection of Nuisances in course of abatement ...	2953
Houses Inspected	964
Visits to Slaughter-houses	34
Do. Milkshops	136
Do. Cowsheds	19
Do. Common Lodging-houses	42
Do. Bakehouses	54
Do. Workshops	2
Do. Places where Offensive Trades are carried on	2
Zymotic Cases visited and re-visited	970
Rooms disinfected	305
Schools do.	10
Do. Inspected	8
Canal Boats Inspected	63
Smoke Observations	44
Smoke tests applied to House Drains.....	191

Section V.

SPECIAL SANITARY MATTERS.

Water Supply....Nearly all houses in the Borough have the Manchester water laid on, and during the past few months we have had the advantage of the water from Lake Thirlmere. In one case a pump has been done away with, and Manchester Water laid on.

Dwellings of the Working Classes.—Many inspections of this class of property have been made, and several alterations and improvements have been carried out. Eight back to back houses have been converted into through dwellings, and two dilapidated houses were taken down and new ones erected, under notice to repair.

Infectious Diseases Hospital.—The hoped for combination with other districts mentioned in last year's report unfortunately came to nothing. I pointed out in a detailed report that the cost of maintaining an efficient hospital would not exceed the charges enforced by Salford, and the Council, on the unanimous recommendation of the Sanitary Committee, passed a resolution granting the Committee power to build. A Hospital Committee was formed, and a deputation met the Salford representatives at Ladywell, and pointed out that, by the then existing arrangements, we were entirely at the mercy of Salford, who would not *guarantee* the use of any beds, and who might make what charges they liked. The deputation stated that the Hospital would be proceeded with unless—

- 1.—An agreement for a certain number of years was entered into.
- 2.—A guarantee was given to take our infectious cases on all occasions up to twenty at any one time in the hospital.
- 3.— A modification of terms, especially regarding small-pox, was conceded.

Several meetings were held, and thanks to the efforts of the Committee, and particularly of the Chairman, and to the courtesy of the Salford Committee, the matter has at last been put on a satisfactory basis, and there is not likely to be any necessity for the erection of a hospital of your own for some years to come. The growth of this and the neighbouring districts during the next few years may perhaps result in a combination to erect a large conjoint hospital, but as in ordinary circumstances, present needs, so far as Eccles, is concerned, are met by the arrangement with Salford, *you* will not have to move in that direction yet.

Excrement & Refuse Disposal....Two "tips" have been in use, one for ashes only, away from dwellings, in the Patricroft Ward, and one near the Sewage Farm, where the excrementitious matters are separated, and sold to farmers.

Water Closets....There have been 99 new water-closets erected this year, 73 "wash-down" and 26 "slop" closets, in place of foul privy pits. Tubs for ashes have been supplied in these cases.

Privy Middens.—A large number of these exist in the Borough, chiefly in connection with the houses of the poor and working-classes. They are "recurring nuisances" each time they are emptied, and a constant source of danger; seeing that now the Sewage Farm is practically completed, and that the rates paid to Manchester for water will allow of a water closet to each house without any further charge, it is desirable that this change should be brought about, if only from an economical point of view.

Scavenging of Ashpits and Roads....This has been still further improved during the year, and the ashpits, &c., of the whole district are now scavenged at the rate of at least six times a year. It is intended to do this work during the day time in winter, and at night in summer.

Sewerage....A general survey of the sewerage of the district is being made, and is nearing completion. A large number of ventilators have been put down.

Sewage Farm...This undertaking is almost completed, and in the coming year the contents of the sewers will be diverted to this farm at Peel Green. A detailed account will be given in the next annual report.

Ship Canal....During the past year the emanations from this waterway have not been so frequent and objectionable as in 1893, probably owing to the cool summer, and great excess of rain. In August and September, on a few occasions, the stench was very bad.

Gilda Brook....The waters of this stream have been examined on several occasions, and found clear as a rule. A few houses in this Borough were found draining into the stream, and the matter was referred to the Surveyor as to the best means of preventing this

Folly Brook....In the summer this stream was very offensive, and many complaints were made. Swinton, under pressure from the Mersey and Irwell Rivers Pollution Committee, and the Eccles Corporation, are at last adopting a scheme to treat the sewage which has been passing into the stream from a number of houses in their district.

Cholera Survey....In November Dr. Bruce Low made a careful inspection of the whole district in connection with the above, and reported to

the Local Government Board on the matter. At the December meeting of your Committee. Dr Bruce Low was present, and the following suggestions were made by him —

BOROUGH OF ECCLES.

Memorandum of recommendations made to the Eccles Urban Sanitary Authority in regard to measures to be taken by them with a view to limiting the spread of infectious disease, and for improving the general sanitary condition of the district.

1.—EXCREMENT AND REFUSE DISPOSAL...The Sanitary Authority should take into consideration what method for the disposal of excrement and refuse will be best adapted to the circumstances of their district, in place of the large privy middens, many of which, as at present constructed, are a source of nuisance of the gravest kind, and cannot fail to be injurious to health. Where efficient sewers and an adequate water supply are at hand, water closets may be used with advantage, particularly where closets are necessarily placed near dwellings. But where fixed receptacles for excrement are retained, they should be reduced to the smallest practicable dimensions, and so constructed as to keep out all unnecessary moisture, and to facilitate the mingling of ashes with excrement. All privies at present causing a nuisance should be dealt with as such. Whatever system for the disposal of excrement and refuse the Sanitary Authority may adopt, it should be provided that the removal of it should be carried out at short and regular intervals

2.—SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE...The Sanitary Authority should take steps to relay any sewers which are known to be defective, and should make provision for their ample ventilation, and for securing their regular flushing. In no case should rain water pipes be allowed to act as sewer ventilators, nor should drainage of middens into public sewers be any longer permitted.

3.—CONDITION OF DWELLINGS...The Sanitary Authority should cause all dwellings which, owing to dampness, want of ventilation, dilapidation, or other structural defects, are unfit for habitation, to be placed in proper repair or permanently closed. Yards and open spaces about houses should be properly levelled and paved, or laid with suitable materials so as to secure efficient drainage and cleanliness.

December 12th, 1894.

R. BRUCE LOW.

Open Spaces....The better class property of this Borough is fortunate in having Ellesmere Park on the north, and Broad Oak Park on the west, but credit is due to the Council for providing the two Recreation grounds in districts of the Borough that, before long, will be filled up with cottage property, when these open spaces will not only be valuable lungs, but also afford a pleasant

Housing of the Working-classes Act	...	...	1885 & 1890
Local Government Acts	...	...	1888 & 1894
Infectious Diseases Notification Act...	...	...	1889
Infectious Diseases Prevention Act	...	...	1890
Shop Hours Act	...	...	1892

Bye-laws.

Chiefly on the lines of the Model Bye-laws.

Prevention of Nuisances, sanctioned by the Local Government Board.

Cleaning of Footways and Pavements	do.	do.
Common Lodging-houses	do.	do.
Houses let in Lodgings	do.	do.
New Streets and Buildings	do.	do.
Cemetery	do.	do.
Slaughter Houses	do.	do.
Offensive Trades	do.	do.
Pleasure Grounds	do.	do.
Hackney Carriages and Omnibuses	do	do
Prevention of Danger from Whirligigs, &c.	do.	do.
Regulations of Dairies, Cowsheds, & Milkshops	do	do.
Do. for Public Baths, &c.	do	do.

LINES OF FUTURE PROCEDURE.

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health is expected to "indicate directions for consideration and action," and some have been suggested throughout this report. Briefly summarised they are as follow :

- 1....The sewers to be diverted to the Sewage Farm.
- 2....The conversion of the midden privy to the water carriage system.
- 3....Abolition of all drains from ashpits connected with the sewers.
- 4....Provision of sanitary pails for typhoid fever cases.
- 5....The continuance and extension of your efforts to provide for the thorough flushing and ventilation of the public sewers.
- 6....Promptitude in the removal of infectious cases,
- 7....Improvement of the housing of the working-classes by the continued enforcement of existing legislation.
- 8....Examination of the smaller workshops under the Factory and Workshops Acts.
- 9....Enforcement of the Shop Hours Act, 1892.

CHAS H. TATTERSALL,

J. H. CROCKER,

Annual Report

OF THE

❖ SUPERINTENDENT ❖

OF THE

Cleansing ^{and} Scavenging

DEPARTMENTS.

FOR THE YEAR 1894,

BY CARLOS W. LASKEY.

ASSOC : SAN : INST.

SANITARY INSPECTORS' OFFICE,

Town Hall, Eccles.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SANITARY COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Report of work done by the Cleansing and Scavenging Departments, etc.

The year just ended has witnessed a great change in the working of these departments, and I think it will be admitted that considerable improvement has been made. It is satisfactory to note that no increase of expenditure has been caused; on the contrary, the tendency has been in the direction of a more economical method of carrying on the work.

Cleansing Department...The following statement of the monthly expenditure on manual and team labour in the Cleansing Department will substantiate this statement:—

TABLE I.

Month.	Manual Labour.			Team Labour.		
January	54	9	6	54	9	3
*February	79	3	3	87	14	11
*March	122	0	5	64	13	9
*April.....	143	4	5	140	8	8
*May	111	7	0	90	13	9
June	77	1	11	69	18	10
July	74	13	1	71	18	1
August	95	3	5	61	4	4
September	77	11	7	95	8	9
October	77	0	2	70	8	1
November	82	6	10	75	7	5
December	71	4	2	65	18	0

* During these months the Cleansing Department was at work day and night.

At the same time the following Table shows that while the cost has been reduced, the amount of work done has considerably increased.

TABLE II.

Month.	No. of Ashpits Emptied.	Belonging to Houses.	Ashpits Emptied.	Loads removed.	Cost per Load.	No. of Complaints.	Loads per Ashpit.
January ...	570	948	68	700	3 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	69	1'23
*February.	965	1719	72	1284	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	80	1'33
*March.....	967	1523	84	1301	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	51	1'34
*April	1453	2359	73	1781	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	48	1'22
*May	992	1714	180	1034	3 10	52	1 04
June	937	1497	216	834	3 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	59	· 89
July.	1133	1945	247	1009	2 11	32	· 89
August ..	1268	2286	405	1053	3 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	21	· 83
September	1297	1961	388	1016	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	14	· 78
October ..	2128	3719	400	1136	2 7	3	· 53
November	2424	3927	547	1093	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	· 45
December	2731	4800	509	1014	2 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	· 37
TOTALS ..	16865	28398	3189	13255	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	36	· 90

Averages.

The total number of ashpits emptied shows an increase of 6,071 over that of 1893, the number then being 10,794.

It will be seen from the above Table that not only have the number of complaints been reduced to an infinitesimal number, but the possibility of a further increase in them is improbable owing to the regularity of the visits of the staff. No longer interval than two months now elapses between such visits, and the quantity of refuse, &c. in the ashpits is exceedingly small, as will be seen on referring to Table II. It has frequently been necessary to scavenge over 30 pits before the day's work of seven loads per gang could be obtained. Side by side with this statement must be recorded the fact that formerly 30 ashpits furnished sufficient refuse for the *whole of the staff*.

I venture to think that this frequent removal of excrement and refuse from the surroundings of the dwellings of the inhabitants of the Borough, must play an important part in preserving the health of the district, and in securing a certain amount of immunity from dangerous infectious disease, and in addition, a great amount of annoyance and trouble is avoided by such systematic scavenging.

As you are aware it was found necessary in August to make a change in the staff, and a new foreman was appointed. At the same time a number of the men were discharged, and their places filled by more reliable men. This process of "weeding" had the desired effect, and the whole department now works very smoothly. I never receive any complaints about the conduct of the men, and never find them other than willing to carry out any instructions given them. The staff now consists of foreman, twelve labourers, and two tip-men, a reduction of two compared with the earlier part of the year. The number of loads to be 'got out' is a fixed one : 7 per day for 5 days, and 4 for the sixth ; a total of 39 loads per gang per week.

It is very satisfactory to note the considerable increase in the number of ashtubs now in use. At the end of 1893 there were 13, while at the end of 1894 they numbered 143. These figures show an almost equal increase in the number of water closets, and it is to be hoped that during the ensuing year more property owners will avail themselves of the more frequent removal of house refuse, consequent on the provision of ashtubs.

It was decided to have the ashpits emptied in the day time during the winter months, and no complaints have been made in consequence of the change.

During the year 2,356 loads of excrement were sold at the Peel Green tip, and 1443 loads have been taken direct to farmers. The total receipts amounted to £76 18s. 9d. as against £47 15s. 9d. for 1893.

Tips...As you are aware, we have the use of two large pieces of land for tipping purposes. One at Peel Green, to which all nightsoil is taken, and the other being the land on which the Protector Lamp and Lighting Company's Works are situated, Permission to use the latter has been kindly given by Mr. Councillor J. Prestwich. At the present time the roads are much in need of repair, and it is hoped that during the ensuing year they will be put in a satisfactory condition. The bridge over the brook at the Peel Green tip having been completed has enabled us to commence tipping on the large piece of land which belongs to your committee. A cabin has also been constructed, and the place has now more the appearance of a depôt than it formerly had.

Scavenging Department...With regard to this department, I am able to report that, calculated on the old lines there have been scavenged, approximately, 9,328,224 square yards of main, and 6,871,680 square yards of secondary and ordinary roads. The average cost per 1,000 square yards being 10'3 pence.

The following is the monthly Table of wages and team labour expenditure :—

TABLE III.

Month.	Manual Labour.	Team Labour.
January	30 11 9	29 10 7
February	29 5 5	24 0 0
March	29 0 0	22 10 0
April.....	36 14 0	36 15 0
May	35 18 4	31 13 10
June	28 3 4	33 18 9
July	26 9 9	28 6 2
August	37 5 4	21 0 0
September	29 0 0	20 18 2
October	28 15 0	22 6 3
November	36 1 8	19 16 8
December ...	37 18 2	21 7 6

A change was made in this department by which two youths have been employed as street "orderlies," and no additional cost was entailed. I venture to think that the employment of these "orderlies" has been warranted by the cleaner condition of the main roads. It is mainly owing to this change that in July we were enabled to dispense with one of the horses and carts, and since that date have been doing the regular work of the department with two only. There is also a considerable saving in the wear and tear of the sweeping machines and rotary brushes, as the main roads, for instance, only require to be swept about nine instead of twelve times per month.

The staff now consists of a foreman, five sweepers, and two "orderlies," as against eight men in 1893.

Tips.—The Ladywell tip is being rapidly filled up and it will probably be necessary to look out for a few suitable places for tipping road sweepings. It is sometimes very difficult to get rid of the refuse, and in many cases we are indebted to private individuals for their kindness in permitting the use of their land for these purposes.

It is a matter for congratulation that an excellent and plentiful bed of sand has been opened cut at the Peel Green tip, and it will be found of great service, in view of the fact that, owing to their slippery nature, portions of the main roads have to be sanded, when necessary, in the summer.

Other arrangements for street watering should be made, if possible. At the present time we have the use of only four hydrants for this purpose, and a considerable amount of time is lost owing to the carts having to travel so far for water. Probably some arrangements could be made with the Manchester Corporation, by which we could draw from any hydrant, and be charged at a certain rate per load.

The thanks of this Committee are due to Mrs. Hughes, of Seedley, for her kind permission to use the Wakes Ground for snow tipping purposes.

Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts.

Under these Acts orders have from time to time been issued by the Local Government Board, declaring Eccles, amongst many other places, to be Swine Fever Infected Area. It has, therefore, been necessary to regulate the removal of swine by means of the usual licenses. It is satisfactory to note that there has been no outbreak of the disease within the Borough

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. W. LASKEY.