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Contributors

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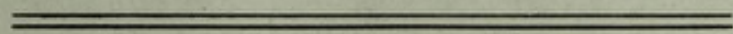
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Urban Sanitary District of Failsworth.



REPORT

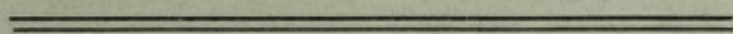
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

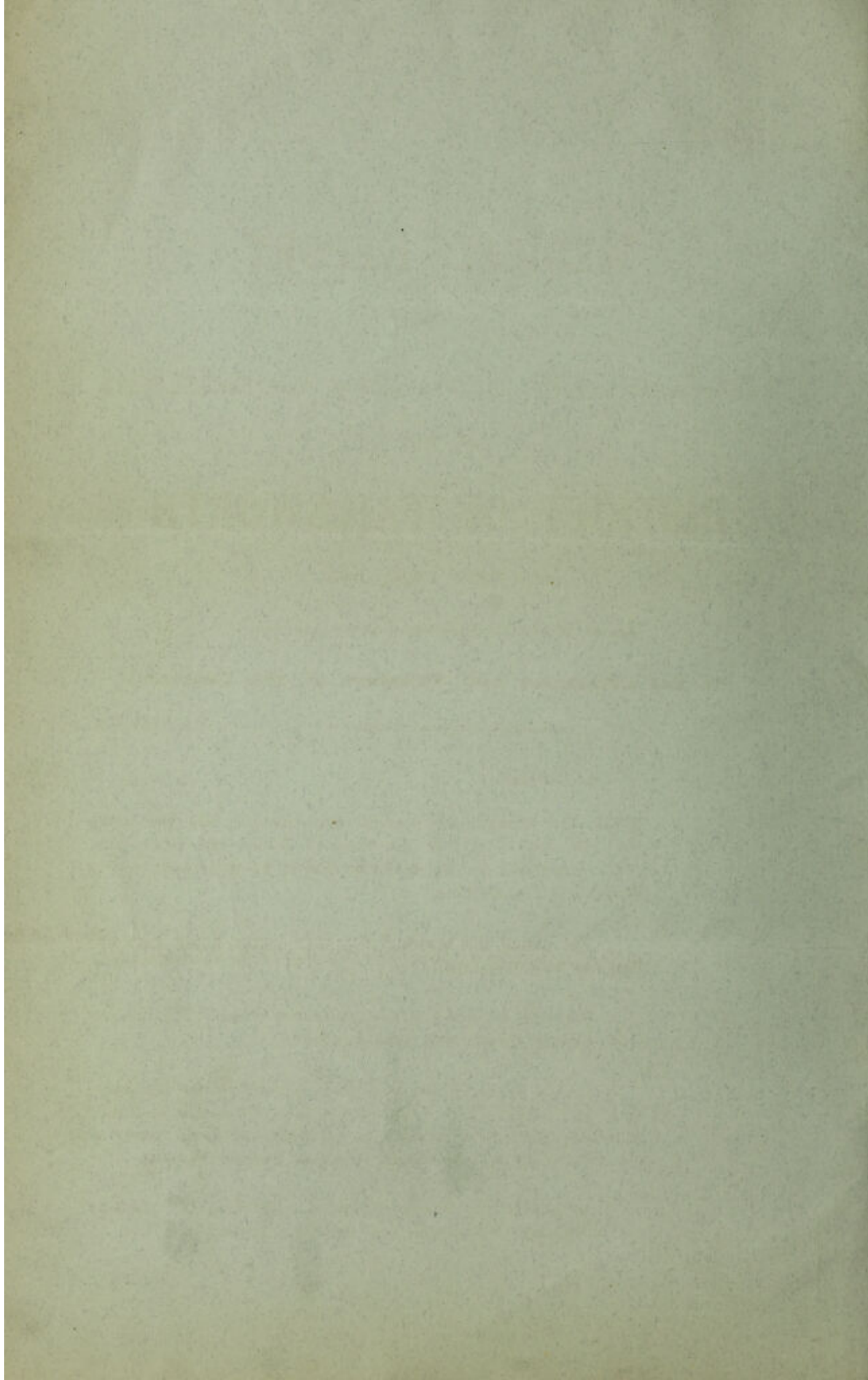
AND THE

Inspector of Nuisances,

For the Year, 1903.



Health Department,
Town Hall,
Failsworth,
February, 1904.



MEDICAL REPORT
OF THE
Health and Sanitary Condition
OF THE
DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH
FOR THE YEAR, 1903.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

GENTLEMEN,

THE land filtration works which was completed last year as an extension to the Sewage Disposal Works, and which have proved insufficient for the work, has had to be supplemented by a Whittaker & Bryant's filter.

The paving and sewerage of part of Ashton Roads East and West has been completed.

Eight old cottages that were condemned under "The Housing of the Working Classes Acts" were demolished.

Having regard to the proposal to amalgamate the District of Failsworth with the City of Manchester, until this matter is decided for or against, I think it would be inadvisable to spend money on a Destructor, or to construct an Infectious Diseases Hospital.

At present the Sanitary Committee undertake the cleansing and disinfection of all rooms after infectious disease.

Failsworth.

Failsworth lies between Manchester and Oldham, is about two miles in length and three-fourths of a mile in breadth, rising gradually from the Manchester end, which is about 286 feet above sea level, to 354 feet. It is divided into two Wards by the Rochdale Canal. The Higher Ward is on the northern side of this Canal, and the Lower Ward on the southern side. The road between Manchester and Oldham passes through the centre of the Township, and is served by electric cars from Manchester.

Area and Population.

The area of the Urban Sanitary District is 1,073 statute acres, and the nett area, exclusive of that covered by water, is 1,064 acres.

The population in 1901 was 14,152; 7,448 in the Higher Ward, and 6,709 in the Lower Ward, showing an increase of 2,727 for both Wards during the decade.

The number of inhabited houses at the census was 3,021, the number of mills and workshops 71, churches, chapels, and schools 14. The average number of persons per house was at the census 4·7, and the density of the population equal to 13·3 per acre.

The increase of the population has been calculated on the number of new houses built. Last year (1902) the population was 14,250, and in 1903 it was 14,500.

Vital Statistics.

The total number of deaths registered within the district was 223, 116 males and 107 females. There died in Manchester Infirmary and other institutions in Manchester and Oldham 17, 9 males and 8 females. Two were killed in Failsworth—1 belonging to Chadderton, and 1 to Oldham—which brings the nett deaths belonging to the district to 238, giving a death rate of 16·3 per 1,000 per annum.

Sixty-three of the deaths were in children under 1 year. The rate of infant deaths under 1 year to 1,000 births was 152·1.

The total number of births registered during the year was 414, 208 males and 206 females, giving a birth rate of 28·5.

The number of illegitimate births registered was 9, with 1 death.

Infectious Diseases.

The zymotic death rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases was equal to 2·2 per 1,000 of the population.

Smallpox.

Eight cases of this disease were notified throughout the year, 1 from the Higher and 7 from the Lower Ward. They were immediately removed to the Oldham Smallpox Hospital at Strinesdale, and the contacts vaccinated and revaccinated, with the result that the spread of the disease was completely under control.

Scarlet Fever.

Thirty-nine cases of this disease were notified, 23 in the Higher and 16 in the Lower Ward. Two cases were removed to Hospital, 1 from the Higher and 1 from the Lower Ward.

Enteric Fever.

Four cases were notified, all in the Lower Ward.

Diphtheria.

Five cases were notified, 4 in the Higher and 1 in the Lower Ward.

Membranous Croup.

One case was notified.

Measles.

There is no notification of this disease, but there were 17 deaths from it. The disease was of a rather severe type, and 2 schools in the Higher Ward were closed.

- Whooping Cough.** There is no notification of this disease, but 3 deaths occurred from it or its complications.
- Phthisis.** There is no compulsory notification of phthisis, but there were 13 deaths from it, and 14 from other tubercular diseases.
- Diarrhoea.** Three deaths were from this disease, and 7 from enteritis. There is no notification of this disease.
- Water Supply.** The supply of water is from the Oldham Corporation, and is sufficient in quantity and of good quality. A few cottages in the lower end of the Township are supplied by the Manchester Corporation.
- Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.** Eight old cottages that were condemned under this Act were demolished.
- Scavenging.** This is carried out by the Sanitary Authority, and is satisfactory. Many backyards require flagging, and passages paving.
- Disposal of Refuse.** This is deposited at tips, and a part used by the farmers for manure.
- Canal Boats.** Failsworth is not a registration Authority; boats merely pass through the district. Thirty-four have been inspected, and no contraventions of the Acts have occurred.
- Bakehouses.** The bakehouses are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition. There are no underground bakehouses.
- Slaughter-houses.** The 8 slaughter-houses have been inspected from time to time, are well supplied with water, and kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.
- Lodging-houses.** There are no common lodging-houses in Failsworth.
- Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.** These are periodically inspected. Fairly satisfactory, and kept clean. They are subject to regulations made under order of the Local Government Board, but the amount of air space of 800 cubic feet is not always obtained.

Factories and Workshops.

The total number of factories and workshops are 108.

There are 13 cotton spinning mills in Failsworth.

Improvements were carried out at the Gladstone Spinning Co. Ltd. by the erection of an additional closet, and the repairing of the others.

Lees Brothers Ltd.	Here very considerable sanitary improvements were carried out.
The Bank Mill Spinning Co.	Here an extra fire escape was erected.
Dob Meadow Mill (Spinning).	The closets here were demolished, and six new pail closets erected.
W. A. Carr & Co., Back Lane (Weaving).	Here an additional pail closet has been built, and the sanitary arrangements are now satisfactory.

All the other spinning mills in the district are in the same condition as in last year's report. The sanitary arrangements, cleaning, whitewashing, etc., which come under our jurisdiction are satisfactory.

Non-Textile.

There are 39 non-textile factories, all in a satisfactory condition. There are 56 workshops, including domestic workshops. They only employ at the most 5 or 6 persons, chiefly 1 or 2. They are kept clean and well ventilated, with plenty of air space.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. W. BEATTIE, M.D.

TABLE I.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number	* Rate	Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number	* Rate				Number	* Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1893	10,925	373	34.1	75	201	236	21.6	...	...	11	12	13
1894	10,925	390	35.6	57	146	171	15.6	...	...	do.		
1895	11,175	359	32.1	74	206	252	22.5	...	...	do.		
1896	11,420	408	35.7	65	159	190	16.6	...	...	do.		
1897	13,000	388	29.8	92	237	247	19	...	...	do.		
1898	13,500	420	31.1	68	161	211	15.6	...	...	16	227	16.8
1899	13,750	466	29.5	72	177	240	17.4	...	...	15	255	18.5
1900	14,000	470	33.5	80	170	279	12.8	...	...	12	291	20.7
1901	14,152	432	30.5	66	152	244	17.2	...	...	11	257	18.1
1902	14,250	417	29.2	66	158	227	15.9	...	...	16	243	17
Averages for years 1893-1902	12,309	406	32.1	71	176	229	17.4	...	...	14	254	18.2
1903	14,500	414	28.5	63	152.1	219	14.7	...	...	21	238	16.3

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 1,064
 Total population at all ages, at census of 1901, 14,152
 Number of inhabited houses " " " 3,011
 Average number of persons per house " " " 4.7

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

TABLE II.

VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES.

YEAR.	Higher Ward.				Lower Ward.			
	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.
1901	7,443	225	130	34	7,443	225	130	34
1902	7,493	220	123	42	7,493	220	123	42
1903	7,629	227	143	39	7,629	227	143	39

I.	II.	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
None.	Prestwich Union Workhouse and Hospital.	Manchester Infirmary, Prestwich Workhouse, Clayton Vale Hospital, Cancer Hospital, Northern Hospital, all in Manchester. Strinesdale Small-pox Hospital, Oldham. Westhulme Fever Hospital, Oldham.
Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.		

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1903.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH DISTRICT		NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY	
	At all Ages	AT AGES—YEARS.									
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards	Higher Ward	Lower Ward	Higher Ward	Lower Ward
Small-pox.....	8	...	...	2	1	5	...	1	7	1	7
Cholera.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria.....	5	...	2	1	1	1	...	4	1	...	...
Membranous croup.....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Erysipelas.....	11	...	2	4	..	3	2	7	4	...	...
Scarlet fever.....	39	1	9	22	6	1	...	23	16	1	1
Typhus fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever.....	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	4	...	2
Relapsing fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever.....	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Puerperal fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox.....	36	2	20	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.....	105	3	35	43	8	14	2	37	33	2	10

ISOLATION HOSPITALS :—

Westhulme Fever Hospital, Oldham.

Small-pox Hospital, Strinesdale, Oldham.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1903.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES).	
	All ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.	Higher Ward	Lower Ward
Small-pox	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	3
Measles	17	5	12	...	...	...	...	15	2
Scarlet Fever	2	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Whooping-cough	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	3	...
Diphtheria and Mem- branous Croup...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Croup .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Enteric	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	2
Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	5	3	...	...	...	1	1	4	1
Cholera.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa.....	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Enteritis	7	5	...	...	...	1	1	4	3
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	13	...	1	...	2	10	...	7	6
Other Tubercular diseases	14	5	3	1	2	3	...	9	5
Cancer, malignant disease	12	...	...	...	...	9	3	6	6
Bronchitis	27	7	4	...	1	7	8	18	9
Pneumonia	6	3	1	...	...	1	1	3	3
Pleurisy	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver }.....	5	...	...	...	...	5	...	5	...
Venereal Diseases .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth.....	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Diseases and Accidents of Partuition...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	26	...	...	2	2	13	9	16	10
Accidents	8	...	1	...	3	...	4	5	3
Suicides	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
Peripheral Neuritis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes	71	23	9	1	2	22	14	39	32
All causes.....	240	63	35	4	13	82	43	143	97

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

For the Year ending Dec. 31st, 1903.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I BEG to submit for your consideration my Fourth Annual Report, shewing the sanitary improvements accomplished during the past year.

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse.

The removal of house refuse continues to be carried out by the Council with their own workmen and hired teams, and appears to have been done in a creditable manner. All complaints relating to neglect received prompt attention.

The refuse collected from the privy middens, ashpits, and dust boxes, has been deposited at the various tips rented by the Council, and the contents of the pails and cesspools taken to several of the farms and tips within the District.

Statistics as to the number and respective kinds of sanitary conveniences.

CLOSETS.	Houses and Shops.	Mills and Workshops.	Churches, Chapels, and Schools.	Total.
Number of Cesspool Closets	10	10	...	20
„ Privy Closets	648	3	2	653
„ Pail Closets	1075	186	37	1298
„ Water Closets	1173	48	...	1221
„ Waste Water Closets	148	...	...	148
„ *Latrine Closets .....	..	22	54	76*
	3054	269	93	3416
ASHPITS, etc.				
Number of Cesspools.....	9	2	...	11
„ Privy Middens.....	388	3	1	392
„ Ordinary Ashpits.....	826	1	5	832
„ Dust Boxes	1219	...	3	1222
	2442	6	9	2457

* Represents the number of Seats.

Number of Houses and Shops within the District ...	3343
„ Churches, Chapels, and Schools	14
„ Factories and Workshops.....	108

Particulars shewing the number of receptacles emptied during the year ending December 31st, 1903, compared with similiar period ending December 31st, 1902.

1903	Ashpits	Privy Middens	Dust Boxes	Loads	Pails	Cesspools	Barrels
Day Work ...	1739	1002	62028	2533	35809	29	601
Night Work...	1327	816	...	2254	35982	44	605
	3066	1818	62028	4787	71791	73	1206
1902	Ashpits	Privy Middens	Dust Boxes	Loads	Pails	Cesspools	Barrels
Day Work ...	1702	735	53543	2611	35532	52	609
Night Work...	1236	934	...	2261	36208	31	600
	2938	1669	53543	4872	71740	83	1209

The contents of the ashpits, privy middens, and dust boxes were disposed of at the various tips, the number of loads being as follows :

	Hartle's	Robins'n's	Fielding's	Mill Lane	Wrigley Head	Andrew's	Emmett's	Various	Hasting's	Total
1903	6	4	1872	133	1021	1251	486	2	12	4787
1902	...	19	2480	231	994	671	448	29	...	4872

The contents of the pails and cesspools were taken to the various farms and tips, the number of barrels being as follows :

	Andrew's	Barrow's	Barlow's	Emmett's	Smith's	Sykes'	Taylor's	Various	Total
1903	769	112	13	265	23	3	21	...	1206
1902	610	134	10	272	111	32	...	40	1209

Statistics as to Nuisances Abated.

- 35 privy closets converted to the water carriage system.
- 7 pail closets converted to 7 water closets.
- 2 pail closets converted to 2 waste water closets.
- 9 cesspool closets abolished, 9 water closets substituted.
- 5 Cesspool closets converted to privy closets.
- 3 cesspool closets abolished, 6 pail closets substituted.
- 18 privy middens abolished, 34 dust boxes substituted.
- 6 ashpits abolished, 8 dust boxes substituted.
- 4 cesspools abolished, 4 dust boxes substituted.
- 6 privy closets and 3 privy middens reconstructed.
- 12 privy middens repaired and roofed in.
- 8 pail closets repaired.
- 29 house drains disconnected from water courses and connected to the Council's sewers.
- 61 house drains relaid.
- 6 cellar drains relaid.
- 10 branch drains relaid.
- 16 blocked drains cleared and repaired.
- 6 water closets cleared and repaired.
- 1 urinal in connection with licensed premises reconstructed.
- Urinals in connection with 2 licensed premises improved by the provision of additional screens.
- 8 yards reformed and flagged.
- 10 kitchen floors flagged or concreted.
- 8 houses provided with Eaves' troughs.
- 8 houses (which had previously been closed) demolished.
- The outside walls of 11 houses have been pointed and repaired.
- 1 farm and farm buildings provided with a proper supply of water.
- 1 case of overcrowding abated.
- 4 nuisances abated arising from animals being improperly kept.
- Closet accomodation in connection with 4 mills improved.
- Nuisance abated arising from a defective drain opening in a bakehouse.

Number of Notices Served.

- 18 legal notices requiring the abatement of nuisances.
- 32 legal notices under the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
- 1 legal notice under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, relating to Sanitary accomodation.
- 1 legal notice under the Public Health Acts' Amendment Act, 1890.
- And a number of preliminary notices and letters.

**Sanitary
Improvements.**

The improvements carried out during the past year consist chiefly of the conversion of privy and cesspool closets to the water carriage system, and the substitution of dust boxes in lieu of privy middens and cesspools.

Special mention may be made of such improvements at the premises, Nos. 10 to 24 Heywood Street and Bardsley Fold Farm, the cesspool closets and cesspools have been replaced by water closets and dust boxes; and at the undermentioned premises the privies and privy middens have been replaced by water closets and dust boxes:—Nos. 644 to 648, 712 to 722, 732 to 738 Oldham Road, 1 to 17 Thomas Street, and 590 to 602 Oldham Road; 136 and 138 Oldham Road and 2 to 6 Wood's View; 97 to 103 Wrigley Head, and 1 and 3 Slater Street.

House Drainage.

The drainage arrangements in connection with 67 houses which were found to be defective have been taken out and new drains laid; all joints have been made water-tight with cement.

Each section of drain has been tested with the smoke or water test previous to being covered in.

The drains of 29 houses discharging effluent direct into the water courses have been connected to the Council's main sewers.

The sewers in the passages at the rear of the undermentioned premises were found to be defective and have been relaid by the Council:—Nos. 10 to 24 Heywood Street, 332 to 338 Ashton Road East, 590 to 602 Oldham Road, and 644 to 648 Oldham Road.

**Insanitary
Property.**

During the year 23 houses situate in Wrigley Head, Berry Street, and Ashton Road East, were dealt with; 15 have been thoroughly repaired and put in a proper sanitary condition, and 8 were closed and eventually demolished.

**Measures taken to
prevent the spread
of Infectious
Disease.**

During the year 12 persons suffering from infectious disease were removed to hospital—2 cases of scarlet fever and 2 cases of typhoid fever to Westhulme Hospital, and 7 cases of smallpox to Strinesdale Hospital, belonging to the Oldham Corporation; 1 case of smallpox was treated at Clayton Hospital, belonging to the Manchester Corporation.

Disinfection of
Premises.

On the recovery or removal to hospital of persons suffering from an infectious disease, the rooms occupied by such persons have been fumigated. After fumigation the room or rooms occupied by persons suffering from scarlet fever and smallpox have been thoroughly disinfected, the walls if papered have been stripped and washed down with a strong solution of disinfectant.

On the occurrence of a case of typhoid fever, special measures are taken to prevent the spread of this disease, and when necessary special covered pails have been provided for the reception of all infected matter. Each pail has been removed at frequent intervals, and the contents disinfected and buried.

Disinfectants in the form of Izal soap, Izal fluid, and carbolic powder, are supplied free to the occupiers of infected houses.

Number of houses fumigated, 47.
 Number of rooms fumigated with formalin, 16.
 Number of rooms fumigated with sulphur, 44.
 Number of papered rooms stripped, 20.

Smoke
Observations.

The limit of black smoke allowed by the Council's regulations is 8 minutes per hour.

Sixty minutes' observations have been taken from time to time, particulars of the results being set forth below.

The limit has been exceeded in 9 cases.

Three notices of abatement have been served, but no legal proceedings taken.

Out of 25 observations taken during the year the emission of black smoke was as follows :-

For a period not exceeding 2 minutes, in 6 cases.	
„ exceeding 2 minutes, but not exceeding 4, in 3 cases.	
„ „ 4 „ „ 6, „ 4 „	
„ „ 6 „ „ 8, „ 3 „	
„ „ 8 „ „ 10, „ 3 „	
„ „ 10 „ „ 12, „ 2 „	
„ „ 12 „ „ 14, „ 2 „	
„ „ 14 „ „ 16, „ 0 „	
„ „ 16 „ „ 18, „ 1 „	
„ „ 18 „ „ 21, „ 1 „	

Slaughter-houses.

There are 8 slaughter-houses licensed from year to year by the Council.

These premises have been visited frequently, and found to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Offensive Trades.

The offensive trades carried on within the District consist of blood boiling, a tannery, and tripe dressers. Visits to these premises have been made from time to time; the conditions met with were satisfactory.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops' Orders.

There are 21 persons registered to carry on the trades of cowkeepers or purveyors of milk, and there are 6 registered dairies and milkshops within the district.

The premises have been visited and inspected, and found to be kept fairly satisfactory.

During the year notices were served on the owners of 3 farms calling attention to several defects arising from insanitary closet accommodation, defective roofs, absence of a proper water supply, defective drainage arrangements, and dilapidated condition of the farm buildings.

In two instances the defects were remedied, whilst in the third the premises were closed, and afterwards demolished.

Inspection of Canal Boats.

The Canals in the district are the Rochdale Canal and the Hollinwood branch of the Manchester and Ashton-under-Lyne Canal.

Failsworth is not a registration Authority, and the boats merely pass through the district.

There is only one owner who has boats located in the district. These are used chiefly for the conveyance of coal to various mills.

A number of boats passing through the district have been inspected. No contraventions of the Acts were met with.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

Inspection of Workshops.

There are 56 workshops within the district. These have been visited and inspected, and examined as to cleanliness, adequate sanitary accommodation, and ventilation.

No cases of overcrowding of workshops have been noted during the year.

In most cases the number of persons employed in the workshops does not exceed 3, and the work is generally carried on in the ordinary dwelling-houses or shops.

It may be of interest to note that the workshops comprise the following :—Tailors, milliners and dressmakers, stocking knitters, boot, shoe, and clog makers, builders, blacksmiths and wheelwrights, plumbers and decorators, watchmakers, mount cutter and picture frame maker, tinsplate worker, manufacturing chemist, tripe dressers, and bakers.

Bakehouses.

The bakehouses, 16 in number, are, with 2 exceptions, a portion of the ordinary dwelling-houses, the baking being done in the rooms at the rear of the premises.

In many cases the baking is only carried on intermittently, as it does not form the principal means of subsistence.

There are no underground bakehouses in the district, and there is only 1 where mechanical power is used. This is classed under the term of factories.

During the year defects were found in 1 bakehouse, arising from a defective drain opening.

A notice was served on the owner, and the defects were remedied.

Outworkers.

The number of lists of outworkers received during the year was 3, representing 2 employers, 6 outworkers residing within the district, and 11 residing outside the district. The nature of the work carried on is in connection with the manufacture of silk and cotton goods.

Factories.

During the year 3 reports were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories relating to insufficient, defective, or the insanitary condition of closet accommodation in connection with 3 cotton mills.

Two notices were served, and the defects in each case were remedied; and in the third case the defects were remedied after the owner's attention was drawn to the matter.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

H. WHARTON, ASSOC. SAN. INST.,

Sanitary Inspector.

29th February, 1904.