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City of Peterborough.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1904.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population. For the purposes of this return, the population is estimated to be 32589, and judging by the number of new houses annually erected, the continued increase appears to be assured.

Birth Rate. The total number of births registered was 739; equal to 22.67 per 1000 population, this is the lowest recorded for the past ten years, but still coinciding with a similar reduction all over England.

Death Rate. 459 deaths were registered during the year, a gross rate of 14·42 per 1000 population, but in order to arrive at the real or nett death rate, the deaths of 58 persons who died either in the Infirmary or the Workhouse, but were non-residents must be deducted, leaving 401. The exact death rate for the City is therefore 12·35, a trifle lower than the record for 1903.

Zymotic Mortality. In this category the deaths were as follows—Measles 1, Scarlet Fever 1, Whooping Cough 3, Diphtheria 1, Influenza 2, Diarrhœa 25, Puerperal Fever 1, Erysipelas 1; Total 35. 1.07 per 1000.

Infantile Mortality. 92 children died under one year, *i.e.*— 124·49 deaths per 1000 births registered 46 deaths, or 50% of the total occurred in the East Ward, Prematurity and Diarrhœa being the chief causes.

The comparative statistics of the four Wards into which the City is divided are shown in the following table:—

	Population.	Total Births.	Birth Rate.	Total Deaths.	Death Rate.
NORTH WARD	6660	157	23.57	66	9.09
WEST WARD	11314	244	21.56	134	11.84
EAST WARD	10660	234	22.88	155	14.54
SOUTH WARD	3955	104	28.82	46	11.63

The South Ward heads the list as regards births, whilst the North has the lowest proportion of deaths.

The Returns of the Registrar General for 75 provincial towns for 1904 are also given:—

Birth rate ... 29.6

Death rate ... 17.5

Zymotic death rate, 2.65

Infantile " " 166 deaths to every 100 births registered.

DISEASE INCIDENCE.

Small Pox. Three cases occurred in Westwood St. during the month of April, imported by a patient from the London Hospital; careful enquiries and revaccination of all known contacts, prevented any further spread of the outbreak. As an additional precaution the clothes worn by the patients during their stay in the Small Pox Hospital were all burnt, and compensation for the loss paid by the Corporation. I regard this detail as most essential, it being almost impossible by hot air disinfection to remove the infection from thick woollen clothes, which have been worn continuously for weeks. Five notices of contacts from other towns were received during the year, in every instance they were at once visited, recommended to be revaccinated, and kept under observation for 16 days without any further developments.

Scarlet Fever. 217 notifications, 1 death. This disease has been generally prevalent since May, following the usual course of Scarlet Fever, in the form of triennial epidemics. The day schools appear to be the chief medium for disseminating infection. In five schools I discovered children in attendance from houses where the disease had not been detected; in order to prevent such carelessness on the part of parents, the Education Committee have issued a certificate to be signed by a duly qualified practitioner, stating the nature of the illness, when a scholar has been absent more than 7 days. I hope this regulation, if thoroughly carried out, will materially assist in checking the spread of infection.

As the result of 4 years observation I have no hesitation in expressing a decided opinion in favor of the removal of Scarlet Fever patients to the Sanatorium, as the best method of preventing infection; but to be thoroughly effectual, there must be no delay: When the disease is recognized early, the sufferer at once removed, and the room disinfected, no other cases occur in the house, whereas under the old regime everyone in the house was as a rule attacked. That such a course is possible is shown by the fact that only 1½ hours has sometimes elapsed between the time the rash was diagnosed and the arrival of the patient in the Sanatorium. I have purposely somewhat elaborated this subject, to draw the attention of Parents and Medical Practitioners to the importance of prompt action.

Diphtheria. 43 notifications, 1 deaths: I am glad to report a decided decrease in the number of cases of Diphtheria, and that the type of disease was mild in character. This improvement is I think due to the care with which the automatic flushing of the sewers is arranged, they are moreover better ventilated and periodically cleared of sediment; house drains too are where necessary altered and brought up to date.

Infantile Diarrhœa. 25 deaths, mostly in the East Ward.

Measles & Whooping Cough. 1 and 3 deaths respectively.

Typhoid Fever. 18 notifications without any fatality. An exhaustive analyses of the above notifications shows that seven were doubtful, in five instances the disease was certainly contracted outside the town, so that there were really only six urban cases during the year, all of a sporadic character. Defective house drainage was the main cause to 4, whilst in the remaining 2 no definite reason could be discovered after the strictest investigation. After the removal of a patient, the surrounding drains are thoroughly flushed with Carbolic Acid.

Phthisis. 38 deaths. 1.16 per 1000.

Cancer. 27 deaths.

Alcoholism. 5 deaths.

Monthly Incidence of Infectious Diseases :-

Month,	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Ery- sipelas.	Totals.
January		2	5		1	3	11
February		3		1	2	- 1	7
March		9	2				11
April	3	8	5	1		4	21
May		16	1		2	2	21
June		31		2	1	2	36
July		24	6	3	1		34
August		16	2	5		1	24
September		33	6	1		2	42
October		21	1	3			25
November		26	7	1	1	1	36
December	•••	18	8	1		4	31
Totals	3	207	43	18	8	20	299

School Exclusion. It was only found necessary to close one School during the year, viz., the Infant School in Westgate, on account of an outbreak of Scarlet Fever. During the period of closure, 14 days, the class rooms and their contents were disinfected and cleaned, and better means of ventilation provided. These measures had the desired effect as far as that particular School was concerned. The ventilation of the class rooms in many of the old buildings is very defective, and should receive early attention at the hands of the Education Committee, as also the lavatory accommodation and the paving.

House Accommodation. Very great improvements are slowly being effected in this direction, and many of the older cottages are gradually being demolished, as land in the central parts of the City becomes more valuable. Some of the new residences for the wage-earning classes are excellent; one innovation being a bath room. The health giving properties of the early morning tub, are not sufficiently understood to be appreciated.

Sewage and Drainage. The Sewers are all carefully cleaned in rotation and large deposits of silt removed; this accumulation is

unavoidable owing to the level character of the district, although the silt by itself rarely smells offensive.

Dairies and Milkshops. There have been very few complaints as regards this trade, in fact all work in connection with the sale of milk is performed with much greater regard to cleanliness than in former years. No outbreak of disease has been traced to the supply of milk.

Slaughter Houses. In mentioning these places I wish to draw particular attention to the very objectionable habit some butchers have, of allowing the entrails, etc., to find their way into the sewers. They become decomposed and emit a most nauseous odour, in fact the men working on the sewers have been made quite ill. The sewer in the Bishop's Road is the chief place where these deposits are found, in one case a heap weighing nearly 1 cwt. was pointed out to me at the bottom of a manhole. I trust that my remarks will receive attention at the hands of the master butchers, and that they will give instructions to their employés to be more careful in future; because it really is a most disgusting and dangerous practice.

Nuisances. Several extensive alterations in the drainage of properties have been suggested, owing to the nuisance arising from obsolete and defective construction; although involving in some instances a large outlay of money, the work was promptly carried out without any friction or complaint. I would strongly suggest that some regulation should be made to prevent any house drains being opened for repairs, before due notice has been given in writing to the Borough Surveyor; proper supervision would then be forthcoming to ensure that the repairs were efficiently executed; under the present regime, the work is often scamped, and the nuisance worse than before.

Public Health Committee. Again I have to bring forward the desirability of forming such a Committee. I am aware that Members of the Council give up a large amount of their valuable time to public work, still if it were combined with an existing Committee, viz.: the Sanatorium, it would not make very much difference, but would on the contrary be of great use. Go on as you are going is all very well in its way, but progress must be the word, where such vital interests as the health of a community is concerned.

Summary. Peterborough may I think justly lay claim to being a very healthy City, and will bear comparision with almost any other town in England. The streets are remarkably clean, well

paved, drained and lighted, although cyclists do growl about the bumps. The general death rate and the Zymotic death rate both keep very low, and some preventable diseases such as Diphtheria and Typhoid are annually on the decrease. Taken as a whole I think it can be justly said that the past year has been a very healthy one, but the old quotation still holds good, "salus populi suprema lex."

Factories and Workshops Act. Factories comprise Coach Building, Clothing, Engineering, Corset and Elastic Webbing, Workshops, Mineral Water, Tailoring, Baking, Dressmaking, Cycle Works, Sugar Boiling, Confectionery, Plumbing, Jeweller, Printing, Harness Making, Whip Making, and Waggon Building, 152 altogether on the register, more than half of which have been inspected during the year, and only minor defects discovered. Particular attention has been given to the means of escape in case of fire, and alteration suggested so that all doors open outwards. The workshops are mostly in good order, light, heating, and ventilation up to the Home Office requirements; but some regulation is necessary as regards closet accommodation, there being no standard at present fixed as regards numbers; it is therefore often very difficult to decide impartially whether the requirements of the Act are being strictly complied with, very often too the closets are in exposed places, and at a considerable distance from the workrooms; in the case of young women and girls this is not desirable.

Bakehouses are all very clean and well ventilated, but unless watched bakers are inclined to close up the ventilators. There are no underground bakehouses, nor have any complaints been received from H. M. Inspector of Factories.

SANATORIUM REPORT.

Accommodation. This institution, for the treatment of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever, is situated just outside the Eastern boundary of the City. There is accommodation for 26 patients, viz.: Scarlet Fever, 16 beds; Diphtheria, 5 beds; Typhoid Fever, 5 beds. 177 patients were admitted during the year, 67 in 1903, 92 in 1902, and 65 in 1901. Total 401, a yearly average of 100.

Analyses. The analyses of Admissions, Discharges, Deaths, &c., during 1904, is shown in the subjoined table:—

Diseases.	Remaining in Sanatorium January 1st, 1904.	Admitted.	Died.	Discharged.	Remaining in Sanatorium Dec. 31st, 1904.
DIPHTHERIA	1	18		19	
SCARLET FEVER	8	142		123	17
TYPHOID FEVER		15		15	
OTHER DISEASES		2		2	
TOTALS	9	177		169	17

Under the heading "other diseases" was one case of attempted suicide by drowning, a young lady, admitted as an emergency; and a mother who accompanied her baby suffering from Diphtheria, still at the breast. The mother was given a prophylactic injection of antitioxin.

Mortality. There were no deaths during the year, a unique record; moreover since the Sanatorium was opened there has not been a single death from Typhoid Fever among the 34 cases treated.

Admissions. The percentage of admissions to notifications increases every year, 61%.

Stay in Sanatorium. The average duration of stay in the Sanatorium of the 178 completed cases was 33.95 days. Diphtheria, 23.13 days; Scarlet Fever, 36.63 days; Typhoid Fever, 17 days; other diseases, 4 days.

Staff. Two members of the staff contracted illness in the performance of their duties, a nurse caught Scarlet Fever, and the porter Diphtheria. To obviate the necessity of employing private nurses as far as possible, another probationer was engaged, as the system of training ones own nurses seems to work extremely well.

Remarks. During the Summer months a heavy strain was put upon the resources of the Sanatorium by the epidemic of Scarlet Fever, but fortunately the weather was fine, so that the convalescents spent most of their time out of doors, and were discharged looking the picture of health.

Conclusion. In conclusion I have to thank the Members of the Sanatorium Committee for the cordial assistance they have accorded me in carrying out my duties. Great credit is certainly due to the Nursing Staff, who under the able and skilful superintendence of Miss Thomas, the Matron, have done so much by careful and attentive nursing to maintain the reputation of the Sanatorium. Results speak for themselves and Nurses are justly entitled to their share of commendation, considering the risks to which they are exposed in nursing Fever Cases. Mr. Walshaw too spares no effort in adding to the attractiveness of the grounds.

SMALL POX HOSPITAL.

Small Pox Hospital. For the reception of cases of Small Pox only, situated on the Corporation Sewage Farm, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Market Place in the Rural District. Accommodation is provided for 8 patients, the Rural District Councils having a claim upon 4 beds by payment of a yearly sum of £30. The hospital is in charge of a caretaker and his wife.

Three cases were admitted during the year, and all discharged convalescent.

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT WILLIAM JOLLY,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 23rd, 1905.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and previous Years. Name of District, CITY OF PETERBOROUGH.

Population	ation	Births	ths	Total	Total Deaths Registered in the District	tered in the Di	strict	Total Deaths	regis- regis- ms in strict	Resi- istered finsti- beyond strict	Net Deaths at all Ages belonging to	aths at
estimated to	ted to			Under 1 Y	Year of Age	At all Ages	Ages		nts in oitt	gen bild s	this I	istrict
each year	year	Number	Rate *	Number	Rate per 1,000 Births	Number	Rate *	tions in the District	resider tered Institu	dents in Pu tution	Number	Rate *
2		60	4	23	0	7	∞		10	=	12	13
1895. 272	862	764	27-99	123	161.00	418	15.31	15	30	:	388	14.02
1896. 276	593	743	25.38	26	102.30	363	13.11	6	18	:	345	12.45
1897. 28088	880	734	26.13	103	140.33	470	16.38	6	45	:	425	15.13
1898. 28500	200	812	28.49	125	153.94	473	16.60	12	29	:	444	15.57
1899. 289	006	837	28.95	114	136.00	481	16.64	18	28	:	453	15.67
1900. 29266	992	814	27.78	121	148.00	456	15.56	19	25	:	431	14.71
1901. 30870	370	898	28.12	96	110.60	422	13.61	89	36	2	388	12.57
1902. 31450	150	827	26.29	68	107.62	417	13.26	62	51	3	369	11.73
1903. 32020	070	762	26.06	96	125.98	423	13.20	55	29	2	396	12.36
Averages									1		-	
	29343	794	27.24	105	131-73	436	14.85	30	32	7	404	13.77
1904. 32589	689	739	22.67	92	110-97	459	14.42	91	58	0	401	12.35

* Rates in Column 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

	1818.	
rict in acres	ive of area	d by water).
Area of District	(exclusive	covered by

At	Census of	1901.
Total population at all ages30870)	Number of inhabited houses 7028 C	Average number of persons per house 4·39)

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1904 and Previous Years.

Name of District, CITY OF PETERBOROUGH.

Names of Localities. WHOLE DISTRICT. NORTH WARD.		Deaths under	13	00	6	12	11	10	14	1	7	10	6
Population estimated to middle	VARD	Ages.	4	41	34	45	46	37	47	38	#	42	46
Vear. Vear	1	registered.	101	86	85	101	110	103	1115	108	102	102	104
North Ward Nor	nos	mated to middle of each year.	3028	3072	3116	3164	3207	3251	3764	3835	3895	3370	3955
NORTH WARD. NORTH WARD. NORTH WARD.			45	36	38	52	29	7	32	33	41	39	94
North Ward Population estimated to middle Population estimated Population estima	/ARD.		128	136	149	156	144	147	143	144	145	4	155
Population esti- Near:			251	225	267	260	267	249	284	273	260	259	234
Search S	EA	mated to middle	9332	9464	9596	9736	9870	10002	10086	10270	10465	6986	10660
Pear. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Population estitation estita			:	:	:	:	:	:	24	28	27	26	10
Pear. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Population estitation estita	VARD		:	:	:	:	:	:	128	130	129	129	134
es of Localities. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Population estimated to middle of each year. 27593 744 418 123 14938 396 185 61 Births of each year. 28500 812 470 103 15376 373 202 56 Births of each year. Population estimated to middle of each year. Population estimated to middle of each year. Population estimated to middle of each year. 17693 743 363 76 15157 414 147 32 Population estimated to middle of each year. Population estimated to mi			:	:	:	:	:	:	263	259	229	250	244
Population esti- Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Year. Population esti- mated to middle of each year. Population esti- mated to middle of each year. Population esti- mated to middle Deaths at all Population esti- mated to middle Deaths at all Population esti- mated to middle of each year. North Warb. Population esti- mated to middle Deaths at all Population esti- mated to middle of each year. Population esti- mated to middle Deaths at all Dea	WI	mated to middle	:	:	:	:	:	:	10714	10921	111118	10918	11314
Year. Year			19	32	56	09	69	63	26	21	21	5	18
Year. Year	VARE		185	147	202	211	210	206	89	54	9/2	151	99
Pear. Year. Ye			396	414	373	445	454	459	206	187	171	345	157
Population esti- Year.	ION	mated to middle	14938	15157	15376	15600	15823	16043	6306	6424	6542	12468	0999
Year. Year. Year. Year. Sages of Years \$ 22 to 1903 \$	H.		123	20	103	125	114	121	96	89	96	105	92
Year. Year. Year. Year. Sages of Years \$ 22 to 1903 \$	STRIC		418	363	470	473	481	456	422	417	423	436	401
Year. Year. Year. Year. Sages of Years \$ 25 to 1903 \$ 5 to 1903 \$ \$ 25 to 1903 \$ 25 t	E DI	Births	764	743	734	812		814		827	762		739
res of Localities Year.	мног	mated to middle	27298	27693	28088	28500	28900	29296	30870	31450	32020	29343	32589
Names of Localiti 1895 1896 1897 1898 1900 1901 1901 1903 1903 1904	es.		:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	- so	:
Names of L 1895 1896 1897 1899 1900 1901 1902 1903 1903	ocaliti		:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	Year 1903	:
Names Names 1895 1896 1900 1901 1902 1903 Averag 1899	of L	Year	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	ges of	:
	Names		1895									Averag 189	1904

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.

Name of District, CITY OF PETERBOROUGH.

	- 22											
OVED	LITY.	South	:	: -	:	:6	:	٠: ١	:	:	:	12
OF CASES REMOVED	TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY	East	:	:9	:	:09	: '	· :	:		:	72
F CASE	TO HOSPITAL I EACH LOCA	West	3	:9	:	34:	:	o :	:	:	:	46
NO. 0	FROM	North	:	:4	:	33	:	7 :	:	:	:	39
TED		South	:	:_	:	:4	: '	ი :	:	-	:	25
CASES NOTIFIED	IN EACH LOCALITY.	East	:	:01	: 1	95	:0	: 0	::	3	:	123
L CASE	ACH LOC	West	3	::61	::	11	:1	o :	:	3	:	86
TOTAL	E	North	:	: ^	:	2 4	:	7 :	:	-	:	53
Т.		65 and up- wards	:	: :	:	7 :	:	: :	:	:	:	2
DISTRIC		25 to 65	3	: 41	: ;	12	::	71 ::	:	9	:	51
WHOLE	-Years	15 to 25	:	:6	: '	1 1	:	· :	:	2	:	22
N THE	At Ages—Years	5 to 15	:	:::	:	133	:	o :	:	:	:	150
IFIED II		1 to 5	:	:∞	:	59	:	: :	:	:	:	29
CASES NOTIFIED IN THE WHOLE DISTRICT.		Under 1	:	:-	: '	24	:	: :	:	:	:	7
CAS	At all	Ages	3	.::	: 6	207	::	0 :	:	00	:	299
	NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.		Small Pox	Cholera Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Erysipelas	Typhus Fever	Enteric Fever Relapsing Fever	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever	Plague	Totals

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1904. Name of District, CITY OF PETERBOROUGH.

			n or ict at					1	elon; Loca	n in o ging lities Age	to	Deaths in Institutions e District.
Causes of Death.	All Ages.	Under I	I and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	North Ward.	West Ward.	East Ward.	South Ward.	Total D Public In in the I
Small Pox						·:.						
Measles Scarlet Fever	I		I						I			
Whooping Cough	3	3		::		I			2	I		
Diphtheria & Mem-	3	3							_			
branous Croup	1		I					I				
Croup	**	•••	•••								::	
Enteric	::				::		::	::				
Other								+	1			
continued											••	
Epidemic Influenza Cholera	2			**		I	I		I		1	
Plague					::	::	::		::			
Diarrhœa	25	20	I				4	2	6	12	5	I
Enteritis	4	3	1					1	I	I	I	
Puerperal Fever Erysipelas	I					I			I			
Other Septic	1					I			I	• • •		
Diseases	7			I	I	5		2	I	4		8
Phthisis	7 38			I	8	29		5	15	14	4	7
Other Tubercular Diseases	7.0		-	4				8		-	2	6
Cancer, Malignant	19	9	5	4		I		0	2	7	-	6
Disease	27					12	15	2	12	IJ	2	12
Bronchitis	40	9	4	I		7	19	5	14	15	6	2
Pneumonia	17	2				8	7	4	6	6	I	5
Pleurisy Other Diseases of Respiratory								••				
Organs												
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver	5					4	I		2	3		
Venereal Diseases	4	4						3			I	
Premature Birth	22	22						1	6	14	I	
Diseases and Ac- cidents of Par-												
turition	7	1			I	5		1	3	3		
Heart Diseases	43				4	16	23	6	18	12	7	3
Accidents	IO	2	I		2	3	2	I	3	6		3 8
Suicides All other causes	3 120	17	6		2	I		I	1 28	4.5	I	
All other causes	120	1/			4	34	59	23	38	45	14	39
, ALL CAUSES	401	92	20	7	22	129	131	66	134	155	46	91

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

I.-INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

		Number of	
Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories	5		
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries.)	72	3	=180
Workplaces			
Homeworkers' Premises			
Total	77	3	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	Nu	ımber of Det	fects	Number of
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecu- tions
uisances under the Public Health Acts:-				
Want of cleanliness	3	3		
Want of ventilation	2	3 2		
Overcrowding	1	1		
Want of drainage of floors	1	1		
Other nuisances	7.	7		
Sanitary accom- insufficient unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	
modations unsuitable or defective	4	4		
(not separate for sexes	2	. 2	1	
ffences under the Factory & Workshop Act:-			113	
Illegal occupation of underground bake-				
house (S. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for				
bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)				
Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107)				1000
Civing out work to be done (unwholesome				
Giving out work to be done (S. 108) in premises which are infected (S.	•••	•••		
in premises when are (infected (5.				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in	***			
premises infected by scarlet fever or			25	
small pox (S. 109)				
Other offences				
				-
Total	21	21	1	

3.-OTHER MATTERS.

Class	Num	ber
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. Inspector 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	1250-7	
Other		E MI
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101):— In use during 1903	There a underg Bakehou Peterbo	round ises in
Certificates granted { in 1903		
In use at the end of 1904	•	
Homework :	Numb	er of
Lists of Outworkers (S. 107) :—	Lists	Out- workers
Lists received	5	27
Addresses of outworkers { forwarded to other Authorities received from other Authorities	7	
Hamework in unwholesome or infected premises :—	Wearing Apparel	Other
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108)	***	
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers'		
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S.110)		
Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1904	15	52

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH.

Surveyor's Office, 17th March, 1905.

Sanitary Inspector's Report for 1904.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

Drainage. During the year the sewers throughout the Borough received constant and careful attention; excepting during short unavoidable intervals men were constantly employed upon the work of cleansing and removing the deposit which cannot possibly be prevented lodging in sewers with such slight falls as those in this Borough. 209 loads of sediment were removed.

The whole of the Manholes were examined, and repairs to them executed wherever necessary.

With a view to obtaining an improved flow, a portion of the sewer at City Road at its junction, with St. John's Street, was diverted; at Nelson Street and Wood Street old brick sewers were taken out and earthenware pipes with improved gradients put down; at Rogers Street from Taverners Road to English Street, the then existing 15-in, pipe having been found too large and otherwise objectionable, was taken out and a 9-in, pipe with a greatly improved gradient put down; a considerable number of the old pipes were found to be broken.

1295 Sanitary Inspections were made, the sanitary arrangements of 265 properties comprising 814 houses were found defective, only a few of the defects were of a serious character; all complaints respecting nuisances were at once investigated.

165 Defective D traps were taken out and earthenware gullies put down in their place.

24 four-inch iron ventilating pipes in connection with house drains were fixed.

5 offensive accumulations were removed.

An offensive trade which had been established without your authority and in an unsuitable position, was discontinued.

3 house sink drains having direct communication with the sewer were "disconnected," and the drain of a water closet which passed through a dwelling house was removed; three other defective water closet drains were put into order.

The yard paving of a considerable number of dwelling houses was repaired.

- 11 Cases of overcrowded dwelling houses and 27 of dirty houses were dealt with.
- 2 Public Schools were disinfected and in one of them the means of ventilation greatly improved; a great proportion of the Public Schools in this Borough are very deficient in the provisions made for the proper admission of fresh air; attention is now being given to this subject.

207 Houses were inspected after cases of infectious diseases. 185 of these were disinfected by your officers, the diseases were 130 of Scarlet Fever, 17 of Diphtheria, 25 of Phthisis, 1 of Typhoid Fever, and 2 of Small Pox.

About 9000 tons of house refuse were removed during the year.

Slaughter houses, Daries, Cowsheds, Bakehouses, &c., have been systematically visited, they were, with few minor exceptions found satisfactory.

Under the Factory and Workshops Act, 77 inspections were made, in 21 cases defective arrangements were found, in each case immediate action was taken to remedy the defect.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. W. WALSHAW,

Sanitary Inspector.

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