

**[Report 1904] / Medical Officer of Health, Spennymoor U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Spennymoor (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1904

**Persistent URL**

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# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1904.

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TO THE  
Chairman & Members of Spennymoor Urban District Council.

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GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my annual report on the health of the district, I have pleasure in noting the very considerable amount of work that has been done during the year in improving the sanitary condition of many of the dwellings and their surroundings. The following summary supplied by the Inspector of Nuisances, shews what has been accomplished during the year :—

Yards re-laid or repaired 119.

Footpaths and channels at the back of 58 cottages.

Midden privies converted into ashclosets 325.

Attics ceiled and ventilated and staircases provided 66.

Floors laid in cement concrete 79.

If this rate of progress is continued, in the course of a very few years, the result must be shewn in improved vital statistics. It is to be wished that owners would use cement concrete, instead of brick paving for yards, first on account of its being more easily kept clean and second because unless the joints between the bricks are properly grouted with cement, pollution of the subsoil is sure to take place and the value of the work done is to a great extent thrown away.

Whilst these improvements by owners are being insisted upon by the Council, one cannot but regret that many occupiers, who might do much to promote a more healthy condition of their homes, fail to do their part. One wonders how many people would deliberately and from choice drink water polluted with sewage—and yet it is the exception rather than the rule to find people who think it necessary to have their bed rooms properly ventilated during the hours they are occupied ! It is quite common to find several people occupying a bed room without a fireplace or with the fireplace blocked up, the window carefully closed and sometimes even sand-bags placed to prevent the entrance of any air from the outside and

the door shut. In cold weather and during sickness one even finds a paraffin lamp burning to warm the room, thus still further diminishing the supply of oxygen for the inmates. The idea seems to be to make the sleeping-room as like an airtight box as possible in order to keep the room warm. This system compels them to breath the same air over and over again after it is polluted with the carbonic acid given off by the sleeping inmates and the result is unrefreshing sleep, anæmia and a low state of health which makes them a ready prey to disease. Surely if people would reflect that they spend nearly one third of their life in their bedroom, they would see to it that the windows were open at least a few inches from the top in order that the air supply might be constantly renewed. The law compels that a cowshed shall be properly ventilated and specifies the cubic area required for each cow—it also prescribes a minimum cubic area for common lodginghouses but I suppose as the principle that an Englishman's home is his castle or it may be that it presumes he is able to look after these matters for himself, in a private dwelling a sleeping room may be frequently overcrowded and not ventilated at all. I would appeal to colliery owners and others to see that all windows can be opened from the top and where there are no fireplaces in the rooms to provide a ventilator in the outside wall near the ceiling. A beginning has been made to provide ventilators in back to back houses and where these are allowed to continue this work should be extended.

It may not be amiss, by way of explaining what might be considered by some, the unnecessary length of the annual report, that the memorandum issued by the Local Government Board to Medical Officers of Health contains the following amongst other instructions :—“The report should be chiefly concerned with the conditions affecting health in the District and with the means for improving those conditions. It should contain an account, brought up to the end of the year under review, of the sanitary circumstances of the district, and of any improvements or deterioration in these circumstances which may have occurred during the year. Care should be taken to report fully and explicitly on the influences affecting or threatening to affect injuriously the public health in the district, and on the action which has been taken, or which may still be needed, with a view to combat those influences. It is of especial importance that the Medical Officer of Health should record what action has been taken to remedy unhealthy conditions which have been reported by him in previous annual reports, or in special reports presented during the year under review, and that attention should be called afresh, year by year, to such as remain unremedied.

As subjects concerning which the Board desire to obtain, through Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health, not only definite general information, but record also of particular changes of con-

dition that may have occurred incidentally or by action of the local authority, the following deserve to be especially borne in mind :—

Physical features and general character of the District.

House accommodation, especially for the working classes : its adequacy and fitness for habitation. Sufficiency of open space about houses, and cleanliness of surroundings. Supervision over erection of new houses.

Nuisances : proceedings for their abatement—any remaining unabated.

Methods of dealing with infectious diseases : notification ; isolation hospital accommodation and its sufficiency; disinfection.

With regard to such points it should be remembered that these reports are for the information of the Board and of the County Council as well as of the Council of the District, and that a statement of the local circumstances and a history of local sanitary questions which may seem superfluous for the latter, may often be needed by the former bodies.

The Medical Officer of Health, in reporting his proceedings and advice, should put on record whether he has made systematic inspections of his district. By "systematic inspections" are meant inspections independent of such inquiries as the Medical Officer of Health may have to make into particular outbreaks of disease, or into unwholesome conditions to which his attention has been specially called by complaints or otherwise ; and such inspections will include the house-to-house inspections which may be necessary in particular localities.

In making systematic inspections, as in much of his other action, the Medical Officer of Health will usually have required the assistance of the Inspector of Nuisances ; and the Medical Officer should include in his report an account of the action which, at his instance, the Inspector may have taken for the removal of nuisances injurious to health.

The report should deal with the extent, distribution, and causes of disease, especially of epidemic and notifiable diseases, within the district ; and should give an account of any noteworthy outbreaks of such diseases during the year under review, stating the result of his investigations into their origin and propagation, and the steps taken by him, or on his advice, with a view to check their spread.

The area of the district comprises 3,388 acres, and is partly urban and partly rural in character. It is bounded on the *North* by the river Wear ; on the *South* by the railway from Merrington Lane to Binchester Colliery ; on the *East* by the Darlington road, and on the *West* by Whitworth highway from the river Wear to the Binchester railway. The chief industries carried on are connected with coal and iron, and there are brick works at Merrington

Lane, and brick works and saw mill at Tudhoe Colliery. The only portion of Tudhoe Ironworks now in operation is that connected with the blast furnaces.

The population, according to the census of 1901, was 16,661, the number of inhabited houses 3,204, and the average number of inmates 5. The number of dwelling-houses erected since then is 23, and population to middle of 1904 is estimated at 16,758.

*Table I* at the end of report gives the birth and death rates since 1896, and the average for seven years 1896 to 1903 inclusive for comparison with those of 1904.

*Table II* gives the number of births and deaths in the district and the several wards extending over the same period and the average number of deaths.

*Table III* gives the number of infectious diseases notified and their distribution in the three wards.

*Table IV* gives the causes of and ages at death in the urban district and also in the three wards.

#### BIRTHS.

There were 653 births registered in the district during the year giving a birth rate of 38·9 compared with 36·4 for the previous year. The rate for the administrative county was 35·6.

#### DEATHS.

There were 321 deaths registered during the year, to which number 14, belonging to the district that occurred in public institutions outside, have to be added, giving a death rate of 19·9 per 1000. This is unfortunately a higher rate than that of the previous year and appears to be mainly due to an increase of 11 in the deaths from diarrhœa, an increase of 19 in the deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia, and an increase of 19 in the number of deaths from "all other causes" amongst persons over 65 years of age.

Spennymoor with a rate of 22·6 and Ferryhill with 22·9 compare very unfavourably with Tudhoe Ward, the rate for which is 16·8. The rate for the administrative County is 18·3.

The following table gives the birth and death rates in each of the Wards and the Urban District for the years 1901-1904.

	Birth Rate.				Death Rate.			
	1901	1902	1903	1904	1901	1902	1903	1904
Spennymoor Ward	44·7	40	38·8	41·7	29·7	18·2	16·4	22·6
Ferryhill Ward	46	43	40·9	40·5	25·6	18·4	19·7	22·9
Tudhoe Ward	32·5	37·4	32·9	36·2	20	16·7	14·2	16·8
Urban District	39·2	39·2	36·4	38·9	24·8	17·4	15·9	19·9

*Zymotic Diseases.*—39 deaths were registered from these and the following table gives the rate per 1000 in the various wards. As

usual the rates are in accordance with the density of the population.

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Spennymoor Ward	6.9	2.62	2.63	3.4
Ferryhill Ward	6.1	2.15	2.5	2.8
Tudhoe Ward	4	1.14	1.27	1.3
Urban District	5.4	1.85	1.91	2.3

The Zymotic death rate for the County was 2.59.

*Diarrhœa.*—20 deaths were registered from this disease during the year, but they were distributed throughout the various months, only 10 being registered during July, August and September, and none in October. They were distributed as follows:—

Spennymoor Ward	11, equal to 1.8 per 1000
Ferryhill Ward	6, do. 2.1 do.
Tudhoe Ward	3, do. .3 do.
Urban District	20, do. 1.19 do.

This compares with .95 for the County.

*Infant Mortality.*—The death of infants under 1 year of age numbered 111, which gives a death rate of 169 per 1,000 births registered, compared with 131 for 1903. The following table gives the infant mortality rate per 1,000 births registered during the last eight years :

(The infant mortality rate for the County was 162.)

	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901*	1902	1903	1904
Spennymoor Ward	196	223	196	180	250	189	135	165
Ferryhill do	135	274	218	143	265	142	140	168
Tudhoe do	137	189	250	153	196	146	123	174
Urban District	164	215	223	165	233	161	131	169

#### INQUESTS.

There were 14 inquests held during the year. In 12 cases a verdict of "accidental death" was returned, 1 "over dose of laudanum," 1 "accidentally overlaid," and 1 "natural causes."

#### UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

77 deaths, or 22.9 per cent of the total number occurred during the year, the causes of which were neither certified by a registered medical practitioner, nor by the coroner after an inquest being held, and of these 50 were children under 5 years of age, equal to 37 per cent of the deaths at that age. Eleven of these were notified by the coroner, 4 being children under 5 years of age. Seventy or 21.8 of the total number of deaths were uncertified owing to unqualified medical practice and were cases attended by Mr Thompson. These included 46 or 28.8 per cent of all deaths under 5 year of age.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Notification) ACT.

During the year 108 cases were notified—a decrease of 12 on the previous year—of these 6 were *smallpox*, 8 *diphtheria*, 5 *membranous croup*, 33 *erysipelas*, 41 *scarlet fever*, and 15 *enteric fever*.

Table III shows the distribution of these in the various wards.

	<i>Smallpox</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Mem. Croup</i>	<i>Scarlet fever</i>	<i>Enteric fever</i>
January	0	0	1	2	0
February	0	1	0	1	0
March	0	2	0	4	1
April	1	0	1	7	0
May	0	0	1	2	0
June	1	1	0	8	0
July	0	1	0	2	0
August	0	0	0	7	3
September	0	0	0	0	4
October	0	0	0	4	4
November	0	1	1	2	1
December	4	2	1	2	2
	6	8	5	41	15

### ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The hospital was occupied continuously from the 16th April to the 31st December, on which date there were 5 cases of scarlet fever and 3 enteric fever under treatment.

In all 46 patients were treated : 32 scarlet fever, 12 enteric fever and 2 diphtheria.

Two enteric cases terminated fatally, one from hæmorrhage 15 days after admission and one from appendicitis 2 days after admission. Appendicitis appeared to have been caused by irritation of seeds of grapes swallowed by patient previous to admission.

*Zymotic disease.*—The number of deaths from these was 39, an increase of 10 over last year and the rate from these is as usual highest in the Spennymoor and Ferryhill wards where there are the greatest density of houses and population, and point to the absolute necessity of doing all that can be done to improve the sanitary surroundings of the people's homes—by the removal of insanitary privy ashpits—proper paving or preferably cementing of yards—thorough disconnection of yard drains from sewers—paving of back streets where necessary and efficient ventilation of dwellings.

*Smallpox.*—One case occurred in Spennymoor ward in April and another in June—both patients belonged to the “tramp” class and were inmates of lodging houses in George Street. Four cases

occurred in Ferryhill ward in December, in the family of a miner. The mother and one of her daughters went to the funeral on the 21st November, of her brother-in-law who died in Chester-le-Street smallpox hospital, and the mother also visited her sister at Team Colliery, on the 28th November, one week after her discharge from the smallpox hospital—but the out-break did not occur until a month later.

The father had been vaccinated in infancy, and of the 5 children 3 who were not vaccinated were affected and the 2 vaccinated escaped.

All the patients were removed to the conjoint smallpox hospital at Binchester, the contacts with a few exceptions (tramps) were vaccinated, the clothing, bed clothes, etc., were disinfected in the steam disinfector and the house disinfected with formalin.

These outbreaks did not extend further.

*Measles* caused 5 deaths. This disease was epidemic at the end of 1903 and during the first quarter of 1904 then practically disappeared and became epidemic again in the latter months of the year. Although regarded by many as a trivial children's ailment, this disease causes annually a large proportion of the deaths throughout the county. These deaths are generally due to lung complications and it is very important that children should be well cared for during convalescence.

*Scarlet fever* caused one death. There was a still further decrease in the number of cases notified during the year, 41 compared with 84 for last year and 124 in 1902. One may fairly attribute this decrease to the existence of the hospital and it is gratifying to report that the objections to removal of children to the hospital are not so numerous.

*Enteric fever* caused 4 deaths. There were 15 cases notified and 12 of these were removed to the hospital. Two of the cases which were not removed terminated fatally and one recovered. In only one instance was there a second case from the same house and that at an interval of 9 weeks.

*Phthisis* caused 15 deaths, a decrease of 6 from the previous year, but there were 13 deaths from "other tubercular diseases" an increase of 3.

In the course of the year a considerable number of the class of houses consisting of two rooms on ground floor and attic or sleeping room above have improved by ceiling the attic providing a movable sky light and suitable staircase—the floors where damp have been relaid in cement and altogether the dwellings have been made much more healthy and comfortable. There are still a considerable number of this class of house to be dealt with in the district.

During the Year I visited and reported as follows :—

*Police Station, Oxford Street.*—My attention being drawn to this place by a case of diphtheria occurring in the house, on the morning of the 3rd inst I inspected the sanitary conveniences &c., and found them in a very defective condition. I instructed the Sanitary Inspector to apply the smoke test to the drains, and the result of his inspection will be given in his report. I also instructed him on the 4th inst to have the worst defect remedied at once by filling up a hole in the floor of one of the cells with cement concrete.

There is a row of cells at the back of the house, with bed rooms above, each cell contains a flush out water closet, the pan of which is of iron, the enamel has entirely disappeared from these and it is impossible to keep them clean. The cells are badly ventilated by means of an iron grating in the wall and when the wind blows at the back of the house the foul air is driven out of cells into the dwelling house. The W.C.'s are flushed into pipes which convey the contents into a Buckham trap in the yard. There are 5 pipes (about 6 inch diameter) opening into this trap, 4 from the W.C.'s and 1 communicating with the sewer. This last pipe has ventilator fixed in the step of the yard door, and this is the only inlet for fresh air into the trap. Night soil was seen lying dry at the sides of the Buckham trap and at the bottom of the ventilator. Only one of the W.C.'s has a ventilating pipe from the soil pipe. This is carried up to the eaves of the house but there is a bend in it almost at right angles near the top. The waste pipe from the wash house has no trap inside the house and is connected with one of the W.C. drains. The waste pipe from the back kitchen has no trap inside and I cannot trace where this drain enters the sewer without having it uncovered, it certainly does not enter the Buckham trap, nor can I trace the outfall pipe from wash basin into the exercise yard. There is a defective trap in the stoke hole of the heating apparatus and I cannot trace where this drain goes to. The yard is badly paved with bricks and contains a midden privy and ashpit.

I have no hesitation in condemning the whole of the present arrangements. The cells are badly placed and cannot be properly ventilated without air shaft being continued from ventilators in the ceilings, through the room above to the roof. The W.C.'s are insanitary and should be replaced by others made of glazed earthen ware. The Buckham trap has *no air inlet* and is badly constructed. There should be one soil pipe ventilator for each W.C. and this should be straight without any bend in it. The yard should be cemented and in place of the present midden privy 2 W.C.'s should be provided—1 for the members of the police force and one for the family. The yard also should be cemented.

In my opinion the cells should be removed from their present position and built along the south side of the yard ; they could then be properly lighted and ventilated.

As this is a case urgently needing attention I communicated with the County M.O.H., who visited the station with me on the 6th inst., and will make a report on the condition of the place to the authorities.

*Thomas Street, No. 3.*—Defective sink in yard and drain stopped. *No. 4*—Yard paving defective. *No. 5*—Defective yard and ashpit. *Nos. 6 & 7*—Privies and open ashpits in a bad state. *Nos. 9 & 11*—Privies and open ashpits in a bad state.

*High Street, No. 22*—Small yard and open privy and open ashpit within 8 feet of kitchen window. Yard paving and floor of wash house very defective, should be cemented. Privy and open ashpit should be removed entirely. The wash house when I visited it smelt like a very badly kept urinal, the nuisance must come from the urinal adjoining.

*Burnett Street, Nos. 27 & 29.*—Open ashpits below yard level, privy rise under the seat built of brick, should be of stone flag. *Burnett Street, Nos. 35 37 & 39* have open ashpits below yard level.

*Durham Road, Nos 69 71 & 73.*—At No. 73 ash closet has been provided. The others have privies and open ashpits below yard level. The space between the dwellings and outbuildings should either be cemented or paved as a common yard.

*Tudhoe Colliery, Nos. 151 to 173 inclusive.* Footpath should be continued for these houses and sinks should be provided. The Council should also consider the making of the back streets.

*Weardale Street (back)* should be made.

*Bessemer Terrace (back).*—Before making this street with a view to taking it over, I would suggest that the Council approach the owners and see whether arrangements can be made to widen it and provide channels at both sides of the road and a footpath alongside the house yards, in fact treating it as a front street and having it lighted, as there is a considerable traffic along this road.

*Fenwick Street.*—I would recommend that this street should be made, also the approaches to it from Half Moon Lane. At present Fenwick street is almost impassable.

*No. 1.*—Behind this house to Orton's Slaughter house should be cemented. (This has been reported upon before.)

*No. 2 and 3.*—Yards should be cemented or properly paved.

*No. 3*—End wall of this house is very damp.

*Nos. 13 14 & 15* have a common yard with 3 privies to one ash-pit which is covered but is below the yard level.

*Nos. 10, 11, 12,* are back to back houses, these if not converted into single houses, which is much to be preferred, should have

more ventilation. There is only 1 privy for 2 families. An ash closet for each family should be provided.

*Half Moon Lane, Nos. 39, 40, 41, 42,* have no yards or yard paving. The space behind these cottages seems almost to be a back road to the Half Moon Inn. I would recommend that it be either treated as a common yard, and paved or cemented, or as a back street, in which case the road should be made and a footpath provided at the back of the cottages.

*Half Moon Lane, No. 39,* house walls are very damp.

No 40, house walls are very damp, and holes through the wall.

No 41 & 42, walls are damp and plaster has come off the walls, the floors are also damp.

Nos. 60 61 back, 62 and 63 are back to back houses with 1 privy for 2 families, open ashpit below yard level, there is also a large wash house in the yard. Unless these houses are converted into single houses their ventilation should be improved, the wash house removed and ash closets for each family provided in place of the present arrangements.

Nos. 64 65 66 67 are back to back houses with 1 privy for 2 families, privies are bad and the ashpits are open. I recommend same alteration as for block above.

Nos. 68 69 these should be covered and ventilated or ash closets substituted.

Nos. 70 71 72 73 have a common yard for the 4 houses. There are 3 privies with a common ashpit (open) for the 4 houses. There should be 1 ash closet for each family.

As requested I have again inspected the following and have to report as follows :—*Half Moon Lane, No 82,* open ashpit below yard level, no access to front street. No 83, open ashpit in common with 82. No 84, open ashpit, yard bad, No 85, ashpit arrangement bad, should have W.C. The *Farmhouse ashpit* behind No 85 is open and below the yard level. No 86 has W.C. and is all right. No 87 has an ashcloset, no access to front street. No 88 has ashpit and privy, should have W.C. No 89, 90, have ash closets, no access to front street. No 91, yard defective, has ash closet, no access to front street. No 92, 93, have a common yard which is cemented and have W.C. for the 2 houses. No 76 has privy and ashpit, no access to front street. Nos 77, 78, 79, 80, have a common yard which is in good order and access to the front street by a passage. No 81 has ash closet emptying into the field, the yard is in fair condition and has access to front street by a passage.

*Barbers Row.*—No 1 is a butcher's shop with slaughterhouse adjoining, there is an ashpit common to Nos 1 and 2, the contents of which must either be emptied into the field behind or conveyed

through the slaughterhouse. No 3, this ashpit is below yard level, access to yard by passage at end of house. No 5 and 6 are back to back houses, yard is partly paved, ashpit below yard level, access by passage at end of house. No 7, open ashpit below yard level, defective privy, no dividing wall between this and No 8, no access to front. No 8 has ash closet which empties into field behind, access by passage to front street. Nos 9, 10, 11, 12, have a common yard the paving of which is defective, only 1 privy for 9 and 10, ashpits are below yard level, access to front street. No 13, open ashpit in a bad state, no access to front street. No 14, same as No 13. Nos 15 16 and 17, have a common yard with a passage to front street, ashpits are defective, in No 15 the kitchen floor and privy are defective. Nos. 18, 19, 20, 21, are back to back houses with a common yard and a passage to the front street only 1 privy provided for 2 families and ashpits are uncovered. Nos. 22 to 28, same as the above block. Nos. 29, 30, 31, 32, have open ashpits below yard level, the privies and ashpits are defective.

Previous remarks on *back to back* houses apply equally to all, and also remarks on privy accommodation. There should be 1 closet for each family.

*Tudhoe Lane*, Nos 10, 11, 12, 13.—A case of scarlet fever has occurred at No 10. These houses have a common yard which is not paved. There are only two privies for 4 families: these privies are connected with a large open ashpit. I would recommend that an ashcloset for each family be provided in place of present arrangement and that the yard be cemented or paved.

*Attwood Terrace*, Nos 8, 19, 20, 26.—These houses have all sinks in the back kitchen, the waste pipes of which are not trapped inside the houses.

*Attwood Terrace*.—There is no back street to the houses in this terrace.

Nos 5 and 6 are back to back houses with a passage to the front street from the yard. Large open ashpit in the yard.

Nos 8 and 9 have a passage to front street and have open ashpits in the gardens.

Nos 10, 11, 12, 13 are back to back houses with a passage to front, yard paving is defective, 1 privy (which is defective) for 2 families and open ashpit.

Nos 15, 17, 14, 16, are back to back houses with a passage to front street, the yard for Nos 15 and 17 is paved and the ashpit covered, that for 14 and 16 is unpaved, ashpit is covered, only 1 privy for 2 families in this block.

No 18, has privy which is defective, the rise being of wood instead of a stone flag. Ashpit is open.

No 19, privy same as No 18. Open ashpit. There is no access to front street except through the house.

Nos 22, 23, 24, 25, back to back houses with a passage to front street. Yard is unpaved. One privy for 2 families. Large open ashpit a considerable distance from the house.

No 26, open ashpit and privy in a bad state.

Nos 27 and 28, back to back houses with passage to front street, one privy for 2 families, open ashpit.

Nos 30 and 31, back to back houses with passage to front street, one privy for two families. Yard in good state, open ashpit below yard level.

Nos 32, 33, 34, 35, back to back houses with passage to front, yard in good state, open ashpit below yard level and only 1 privy for 2 families.

No 36, yard badly paved and slaughter house has a sink in the floor.

Nos 38 and 39, back to back houses. There are two privies and 1 open ashpit. Yard in fair condition, defective round the sink.

Nos 40 and 41, yard is good with a passage to the front, 1 privy for two families and an open ashpit.

*Tudhoe Lane.*—Nos 10, 11, 12, 13, have a common yard which is not paved or cemented, 1 privy for 2 families and large open ashpit.

Nos 14 and 15, yards partly paved, open ashpit.

Nos 9, 8, 7, 6, 5 and 4, yards unpaved, 1 privy for two families, open ashpit.

No 3, yard paved, privy and open ashpit below yard level.

No 2 yard paving bad, defective sink, open ashpit.

No 1 sink in yard defective, privy in bad state of repair, open ashpit below yard level.

*Lord Raglan Hotel, High street.*—A case of diphtheria was notified from this house. There is no trap or waste pipe from back kitchen sink. There is a water-closet in the house, but no Buckham trap; privy and open ashpit in yard, which is small and confined; walled off from the yard is a urinal, which is offensive; the stable which is used as a wash-house has a defective floor; waste pipe from sink should be trapped; Buckham trap and inspection chamber, with fresh air inlet, should be provided; water closets should be substituted for the open ashpit and privy; urinal should be properly constructed and provided with water for flushing; wash-house floor should be cemented.

*High street (Mr G. W. Scott's).*—A case of scarlet fever, which

terminated fatally, occurred at this house. The waste pipes from sinks, etc., are not trapped. There are 3 defective sink traps in the yard; no Buckham trap; ventilating pipe for soil pipe is useless; waste pipe should be trapped; Buckham trap and inspection chamber with air inlet should be provided; sink in yard properly trapped; soil pipe should be properly ventilated and yard should be cemented.

*Queen street, No 13.*—Roof is defective and ceilings are bad.

Yard area 21, Hume street is encroached upon by wooden erection; yard sink defective; open ashpit.

*9 William street.*—Open ashpit below yard level; yard paving defective.

Building adjoining dwelling-house in Teasdale's yard, back Thomas Street, occupied as stable. There is no drain to this, and a hole through the wall permits urine, etc., to flow through into the back street. If this is to continue in use as a stable, drain with trapped gully should be provided. There should also be a receptacle erected for stable manure from this and other stables at back Thomas Street. At present manure is laid in a heap on vacant ground between the buildings and the beck.

*No 6 Flora street.*—Case of diphtheria at this house; open ashpit below yard level; wall only single brick and broken down in places.

*No 2 Flora street.*—Defective sink trap in yard. I have reported this before.

*No 68 George street.*—Kitchen floor very bad, should be replaced with cement. Roof also defective.

*No 41 King William street.*—Yard paving defective.

*No 48 Baff street.*—Floor in front room, boards have rotted away in places, require to be renewed.

*No. 10 Marmaduke street.*—Yard partly paved; whole yard is polluted with ducks and poultry, and there is a pig in a pig-stye which is only about 45 feet from the dwelling. This is contrary to the bye-law.

*No. 16 King William street.*—Back kitchen floor is of bricks badly broken, is damp and should be replaced with cement. Mrs Lalor informed me that the yard sink and drain had been blocked for 6 weeks or longer, and had not been anyway improved by the Council's workmen, that during the late heavy rain the back part of house was flooded by the back flow from the drain. She complains also of the smell from the sink. The yard paving is not good and around the sink is very defective. The drain and sink require immediate attention, as the state of these is most likely responsible for the enteric fever. I would again urge upon the

Council the necessity for having all yard drain connections throughout the district thoroughly tested.

*Gerard street*, No 6.—Kitchen and pantry floors in bad state and damp. Walls damp, spouting defective, yard bad.

No 8.—Kitchen and pantry floors bad, walls damp, yard bad. Paving required at ash closet of both these houses.

*Duncombe street*, No 28.—Back to back houses. Ventilation deficient. Defective sink in the yard.

*Tudhoe Lane*, Nos 1 and 2.—Defective sinks have not been remedied.

*Villa street*, No 2—My attention was drawn to the ashpit, which had been cleaned out, but the filth had not been removed from the privy. As this ashpit is below the yard level, and causes a nuisance, it should be replaced by an earthcloset similar to that in the adjoining yard.

*Princes street*.—Nos 3, 5, 7, have open ashpits; 9, 11, open ashpits and yards bad; 13, 15, have ash closets and are all right; 21, 23, open ashpits; and at 23, paving round sink is defective; 25, 27, open ashpits; 29 ashpit covered; Nos 33, 32, 31, 30, 28, 26, 24, 22, 20, 19, have open ashpits; and at 19, the privy is in bad condition; Nos 18, 17, 16, 14, have covered ashpits; 12 has an ashcloset; No 2, open ashpit and yard in bad condition.

*Rosa street*.—No 20, yard sink defective; Nos 19, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, have open ashpits; 10, 11, covered ashpits; 9, 8, have ash closets; Nos 29, 30, have ashpits covered; and No 12 has ashcloset.

*Craddock street*.—No 21 has very defective yard; Nos 9 and 7, open ashpits and yard bad at No 9; Nos 5, 3, have very small yards, with open ashpits; 44, open ashpits; 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, have open ashpits, and leakage takes place into the yard on the lower side of each; 80, 82, 84, conditions are similar, and yards are bad.

All the above midden privies should be replaced by ashclosets.

*Marmaduke Street*, Nos. 1 and 3: Badly paved yard with defective sinks; privies and open ashpits in a bad state. Nos 5 and 7, defective sinks; privies and open ashpits in bad state; pigstye at No 5 contrary to bye-law. Nos 9 and 11 have ashclosets; yards in a bad state and sinks defective. No 13, defective privy and open ashpit. No 15, yard paving defective at sink; defective privy and open ashpit. Nos. 17 and 19, yard paving round sink defective, open ashpit and privy. No. 21, yard paving bad; open ashpit and privy. No. 23, yard paving round sink defective; open ashpit and privy. The privies and open ashpits are further removed from the dwellings at Nos 17, 19, 21, 23, than the previous numbers.

No 25, yard paving defective ; privy and open ashpit.

No 27           "           "           "           "

No 29 has no yard. No 31 yard bad ; one privy and open ashpit for these two houses. There should be an earthcloset for each house.

Nos 32 and 30, yards bad ; open ashpits and privies.

No 26           do.           do.           do.

No 28, open ashpit and privy. Nos. 24 and 22, yards bad ; open ashpits and privies,

Nos 20 and 18, yards bad; privies and ashpits bad. No 16, privy and open ashpit. No 14, privy and open ashpit in bad state.

No 12 yard bad ; defective sink ; stables require attention ; pigstye contrary to bye-law.

No 12 has an ashcloset. No 8, yard paving at sink defective ; pigs kept contrary to bye-law. No 6, yard paving and sink defective. No 4, yard paving bad ; large foul ashpit.

*Flora Street*, No 12 : Floor of passage is boarded, is in bad condition and requires renewal ; pantry floor of brick is damp and should be laid in cement concrete ; yard paving bad ; open ashpit and privy.

*Reservoir Cottages*, No 2 : This house has a cellar which is dry and free from anything objectionable ; yard is in good order and the sinks are properly trapped ; there is however the ordinary open ashpit and privy.

*Duncombe Street*, No 28.—Defective sink trap in yard has not been remedied. No 30, back kitchen and pantry floors of brick and damp, should be replaced by cement concrete ; open ashpit and privy.

*Tudhoe Village* : Houses occupied by Mrs Sanderson, senr., and Mr Sanderson—yard paving bad ; open ashpit and privy ; cowshed in defective condition ; no proper manure heap. Cottages occupied by Messrs Hutchinson, Todner and Jones—One common yard for these 4 houses ; 2 defective sinks in the yard ; 2 privies and open ashpits.

Cottages occupied by Messrs Todner, Hughes, Parry and Thomson—Front of houses adjoin the garden; doors of houses open into yard, which is badly paved with cobble stones where paved ; remainder unpaved ; 2 privies for 4 families ; spouting defective.

Cottages occupied by Messrs Shippen and Burns—No spouting at back of houses ; no paving in yard ; 1 open ashpit and privy ; 1 ashcloset, of rather a primitive kind ; yard bad.

Cottage occupied by Fitzpatrick—Unpaved yard ; privy and open ashpit.

*Gerard street*, Nos 18 and 20.—Roof defective ; ceiling bad ; front room floors defective ; yard paving and sinks defective.

*Whitworth terrace* (Coia's).—Percolation of filth from ashpit privy into back street ; privy ashpit should be replaced by ashclosets or W.C.

*South street*, No 2.—Yard paving bad ; open ashpit and privy ; privy rise of brick. No 4, yard paving defective ; open ashpit and privy ; privy rise of brick. No 6, yard paving bad ; open ashpit and privy ; privy rise of brick. No 8, yard paving bad ; open ashpit and privy ; privy rise of brick. No 10, yard bad ; open ashpit. No 12, yard defective at sink ; open ashpit below yard level. No 14, yard paving at sink defective ; ashpit covered. No 16, ashcloset and yard good. No 16½, open ashpit and privy.

*Weardale street*.—As requested by the Clerk in his letter of 28th ult. I have examined the following cellars in Weardale Street, and have to report as follows :—No 133, grocer's shop, cellar used for storing barrels of beer ; floor cemented ; defective trap.

Nos 132, 130, 129, 128, 127, 126, 124, 123, 122, 121, 120, 119, 118, 117, 116, 114, 112, 105, 103, 100, 96, 95, 94, 82, 80, 79, 78, 72, 71, 70, 66, 65, 64, have cellars with brick floors which are dry, and I could not find any drain opening in them. Several of them are used as coal cellars, and opening into drain may have been covered up with coals.

Nos 115, 111, 109, 108, 106, 104, 99, 98, 97, 93, 91, 88, 87, 85, 83, 81, 77, 76, 75, 74, have drain openings with defective traps. In No 73, I was unable to find any drain, though one probably exists. In No 94, the brick floor is very broken. In No 90, the drain has been closed. In No 84, there is a cement floor without any drain. No 113, entrance to cellar is boarded over.

Nos 131, 125, 110, 107, 102, 101, 92, 89, 86, 69, 68, 67, the tenants were out and I could not examine the cellars, but have no doubt that they are similiar to those I examined. I have not been able to inspect two blocks in Weardale Street, but hope to report upon these and Bessemer Terrace, as requested, to the December meeting.

I would suggest that the Council ascertain whether there is a sewer into which these cellars are drained ; the nature of it, where its outfall is, and whether any water drains into it from the cellars, as I was told by all the tenants, without exception, that the cellars are never flooded, and the only water that comes into them is from the openings by which coals are delivered into cellar.

*Flora street*, Nos 37 and 39.—There are 2 privies for these 2 houses, with an open ashpit between them ; privy rise of brick.

Nos 25 and 27.—Same arrangements as at 37 and 39.

*Baff Street* (Cheesy's) : open ashpit and privy.

*Bessemer Terrace*, No 61 : Open ashpit and privy ; yard paving defective.

*Pearson's Terrace* (Hood's) : open ashpit and privy ; ashcloset should be substituted, and yard paving relaid where necessary.

The following completes my report on cellars in Weardale Street. There are no drains to the cellars at Nos 134, 136, 137, 138, 139, 141, 145, 146, 147, 148 and 150. Defective traps to drains at 142, 143 and 149. Nos 135 and 144 probably have drains. At Nos 140 and 148, the tenants were out when I called. I would suggest, as before, that the Council ascertain whether there is a sewer with which those drains are connected, where the outfall is, and whether any water runs into it from the cellars.

Of these reported upon last year the Inspector of Nuisances informs me that the recommendations have been carried out with the following exceptions.

*Half Moon Lane* 84, 85, 88, 91, reported to February Meeting

*Barber's Row* 13, 14 do. do.

*Attwood Terrace*, Ashcloset not yet provided for No 15 and some yard paving to be done at 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 (March)

*High street* (G. W. Scott's) yard paving (April)

*Gerard street* 6, 8, 18, 20 (September)

*Duncombe street* 30, back kitchen floor (September)

*Princess street* 3, 5, and yard paving at 23 (September)

*Rosa street* 13, 15, 16, 17, 19 (September)

*Craddock street*, 21 work partly done ; 3, 5, 7, 9, 76, 80, 82, 84 (September)

*Marmaduke street* 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, and 4 (October)

*Flora street* 12, and Tudhoe Village (October)

The Inspector of Nuisances informs me that all the work recommended after my inspection of properties mentioned in annual report for 1903 has been done with the following exceptions:—

*Durham road* 33 and 41, ashpits are still below yard level.

*South terrace*, sinks are still defective at 10 and 12.

*Hume street* 33, nothing done.

*Ridley's buildings*, nothing done last year.

*Burnett street*, work has been done at 16 and 18, nothing done at the rest.

*King William street* 45, Magistrates order was obtained on 30th November last for work to be done.

*Thomas street* 13, 14 and 15 have been converted into lodging house and reported upon under "lodging houses."

*Jackson street* 19, 21, 23, 27, 33, 35 and 37, floors have not yet been re-laid.

*Tudhoe Colliery*, footpaths and sinks for Nos. 165 to 173, and also for Nos. 189 to 217.

A commencement has been made in providing ashclosets, 14 of which are now in use in place of the large insanitary ashpits and privies.

In addition to the above 7 houses in Carnes street which had been condemned have been rebuilt and are now occupied. Two blocks of houses in Arthur street consisting of kitchen and sitting-room on ground floor and attic above, have had the attics ceiled and movable skylights provided, floors have been laid in cement and ashclosets have also been provided.

With regard to the block of houses in George street, 145 to 103 inclusive, reported upon in annual reports of 1902 and 1903, he informs me that all the work has been done with the following exceptions:—No. 133 yard paving which is bad; Nos. 135 and 137 attics unceiled, no proper staircase, kitchen and pantry floor tiles, yard paving defective, privies and covered ashpits defective. No. 143 attic unceiled, no proper staircase, kitchen floor defective.

Four cottages have had attics ceiled and ventilated in Welsh row, Tudhoe; one in John street and two in Post Office street. Floors have been laid in cement in 6 houses in Tudhoe Lane, 2 in Flora street, 1 in King William street, 1 in Duncombe street, 4 in Post Office street, 2 in Craddock street, 2 in Brook street, 1 in Cheapside and 3 in Church street.

During the year legal proceedings were taken in 3 cases against owners with the result that 2 were withdrawn after the work was completed and in the third an order was obtained on the 30th November, compelling the work to be done.

During the year the following private streets have been made under the "Private Streets Works Act" 1892:—

Front and Back Diamond terrace.

do. Park Crescent and a short length in Burnett street.

Plans have also been prepared for making of Iron Works road, Fenwick street, Broom street, and Jubilee street.

The contract has been let for the relaying of a new concrete flagged footpath on the south side of High street from the Railway Hotel to the Four-lane-ends, also for the laying of a new kerb and a surface coating of tar macadam from St. Paul's Church to the Four-lane-ends.

## PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

The means taken to prevent the spread of infection are ; the adoption of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act and the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act. An Isolation Hospital, equipped with disinfecting apparatus, ambulance, &c., and nurses in residence.

### GENERAL SANITATION.

*Spennymoor Ward.*—The sewage is treated at the outfall near Ox Close Farm. These works are not able to deal with the whole of the sewage.

*Ferryhill and Tudhoe Wards.*—At present there are no works for dealing with the sewage.

The whole question of the treatment of the sewage of the district is under consideration and the Council considering applications from engineers with a view to selecting one to prepare plans, &c.

*Burial accommodation* is provided by the cemeteries at the Four lane Ends, Spennymoor, the Five-lane Ends, Tudhoe, and the R.C. burying ground at Tudhoe.

*Elementary Schools at Tudhoe Home* have automatic flushing trough water closets. At the *National Schools, Tudhoe*, automatic flushing water closets are in course of construction. At all the other schools either ashclosets or privy ashpits are in use. The control of all these schools has been taken over by the County Council. Until recently the schools have been disinfected during the holidays and conveniences have been disinfected weekly and it is to be hoped that this system will be continued.

*Cowsheds.*—Several of these have been improved during the year but there are still some wooden cowsheds that cannot be regarded as satisfactory. In this district the cows are habitually turned out a portion of each day and therefore the 800 cubic space per cow does not apply. In my opinion a minimum standard should be fixed.

*Slaughter-houses.*—Some of these have been improved and the whole may be regarded as fairly satisfactory.

*Lodging-houses.*—The regulations are now enforced and single beds are in use. Instructed by the Council I made a special inspection of these and reported in January, 1905. I understand that the recommendations were adopted with the exception of the ventilators in rooms without fireplaces ; as this recommendation would not entail much expense and would add considerably to the healthiness of the houses it would have been better to have adopted it also.

*George street, Nos. 78 and 80*—The greater part of the yard at this lodging-house is at too high a level and water does not get away properly. The paving around the sink is not properly jointed,

the line of the yard and sink should be lowered, and the greater portion either cemented or paving properly grouted with cement. The kitchen floor at 78 is of quarls which are much broken. Back kitchen floor at 80 is of quarls, flags are much broken. The only water tap for both houses is in this back kitchen. The front kitchen floor at 80 is principally of flags, but has been repaired with bricks, which are very broken. Where floors are of quarls and bricks, these should be laid with cement concrete.

No. 1, room has no fireplace, but the window opens from the top

No. 2, room has a fireplace, but window does not open from top

No. 3, room has no fireplace, but window opens from the top.

Room No. 4 has no fireplace, and window does not open from the top.

Room No. 5 has a fireplace, but window does not open from the top. Where there is no fireplace, a ventilator should be provided in the outer wall near the ceiling, and all windows should be made to open from the top.

*George street, No. 71*—Yard paving defective; one privy and ashpit and no urinal. Yard paving should be repaired and joints should be grouted with cement, or the whole laid in cement; urinal and two ashclosets should be provided.

No. 1 room has no fireplace, and is lighted by a small sliding window.

No. 2 room has a fireplace and a sliding window.

No. 3 room has a fireplace and window opens from the top.

No. 1 room should have a ventilator in the outer wall near the ceiling.

*George street, No. 66*—Front kitchen floor is of quarls, which are much broken; yard is in very good condition.

No. 1 room has a fireplace, window does not open from the top.

No. 2 room has a fireplace, and has a sliding window.

No. 3 room has no fireplace, and has a sliding window.

No. 4 room has a fireplace and sliding window.

No. 5 room has a fireplace, but window does not open from the top.

No. 6 room has no fireplace, but is opposite No. 3, and there is a through current of air.

Where there are no fireplaces, ventilators should be placed in outer wall near the ceiling, and all windows that are not sliding windows, should be made to open from the top.

*Thomas street (lodging-house)*—This house has recently been altered, and is structurally a great improvement on the old back to

back house property which previously existed there. There are two kitchens and a dining room for men, bath room with two baths, supplied with hot and cold water. All the sleeping rooms have fireplaces, and the windows open from the top. The bed rooms for married couples has not yet got the partition erected. On the yard level there is a lavatory for lodgers washing, which has a tap in it. There are 6 ash-closets for lodgers and 1 for the family. Partition should be erected in the room for married couples.

*Water supply* is from the Weardale and Consett Co's reservoirs and is a pure water of excellent quality for domestic purposes. The following is the Analyst's report on the sample of water taken from the *local reservoir* and a correspondence is going on between the Council and the Water Company with regard to same.

Water Supply (a) Spennymoor Reservoir—The County Analyst reports as follows on the sample of water taken from the Weardale and Consett Water Co's reservoir at Spennymoor.

Color and appearance in 2 foot tube	faint green, not clear
Odour when heated to 120° Fahr	musty
	Grains per gallon.
Chlorine as Chlorides	·8400
Nitrogen as Nitrates	·0345
Ammonia	None
Albuminoid Ammonia	·0034
Oxygen Absorption	·0859
Injurious Metals	None
Total solid matter dried at 220° Fahr	7.3500

#### MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Noticeable deposit from 1/2 gallon, consisting of mineral matter decomposing vegetable matter, starch granules, coloured fibres of wool and cotton, coal dust, many fungus growths and many moving organisms.

#### OBSERVATIONS.

This sample has the composition and characters of an unfiltered upland water. There is no evidence of sewage matter, but water of this character is not of satisfactory quality for drinking purposes.

Notice has been served upon the owner of High Whitworth Farm to provide a proper water supply.

*Mode of disposal of excrement and household refuse.*—The prevailing mode is still the privy and ashpit system, many of which are defective and give rise to nuisances and are a danger to health. Last year 325 ashclosets and 4 water closets were substituted for midden privies.

*House and yard drainage.*—Trapping and disconnection from

sewers is general but systematic testing is necessary to ascertain that the connections are satisfactory.

*The general condition of Houses of Working Classes*—As a rule with regard to habitability, repairs, dryness, ventilation, over crowding, closet accommodation, draining and paving of yards, may be considered satisfactory, but there are many exceptions and it is only by steady work and application of the officers supported by the Council that we may hope to remove these blots upon the district within a reasonable period.

*Scavenging of the District* is done by several Contractors, who undertake to do the work, between the hours of 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. and to empty ashpits once a month and ashclosets twice a week. Constant supervision is necessary to see that this important work is done thoroughly, and regularly according to the terms of the contract.

*Sanitary Requirements.*—Many of the back streets in Spennymoor Ward are in a very bad state of repair and should be attended to at once. As these streets are very narrow and the traffic over their limited area is very heavy, the only satisfactory method of dealing with them appears to me to be to pave many of them at any rate, with scoriæ bricks. Street making should be proceeded with where streets are not made and taken over. Systematic inspection of all house and yard drain connections. Where ashpits are too large or defective, these should be replaced by well constructed ashclosets, the great advantage of these being that they compel the frequent removal of filth. So long as badly constructed ashpits are allowed to remain, there must necessarily be pollution of soil and air around the dwellings and in consequence recurring epidemics of diarrhœa and enteric fever after any continuance of hot weather. Increased area of works for dealing with the sewage from Spennymoor Ward at Ox Close. Sewage disposal works for Tudhoe and Ferryhill Wards.

#### FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

The table at end of report gives a summary of work done under this Act. Section 22 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, has been adopted, but no standard of sufficiency and suitability of sanitary accommodation for persons employed in factories and workshops has been fixed. Two notices were served on owners of factories for insufficient privy accommodation and nine similar notices on owners of workshops, and of these eight were remedied and one workshop discontinued as such. There are no underground bakehouses in the district. One has electrically driven machinery and is in a satisfactory state. One, where notice for white washing was served, is not so satisfactory but plans have been passed for its improvement and extension. Two are "retail" bakehouses and notices for whitewashing were served, not because

the places were in a dirty condition, but on account of the walls of the kitchens, which are used as bakehouses, being covered with paper. There are altogether 96 workshops on the register.

I am

Your Obedient Servant,

ROBERT S. ANDERSON. M.D.

(I) **Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and Previous Years.**  
**Name of District—Spennymoor Urban District.**

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Deaths of Non-Residents 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.	Rate*	
		Number	Rate*	Under 1 Year of Age.	At all Ages	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number					Rate*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1896	16665	620	37.2	118	190	334	20			3	337	20.2
1897	16665	632	37.9	104	164	282	16.9			6	288	17.2
1898	16665	652	39	141	216	341	20.4			4	315	20.7
1899	16665	667	40	149	223	385	23.1			10	395	23.7
1900	16665	664	37.8	110	165	328	19.6			4	332	19.9
1901	16672	654	39.2	153	233	403	24.1			10	415	24.8
1902	16701	656	39.2	106	161	286	17.1			6	292	17.4
1903	16729	609	36.4	80	131	249	14.8			18	267	15.9
Averages for years 1896-1903	16678	644	38.3	120	185	326	19.5			6.3	333	19.7
1904	16758	653	38.9	111	169	321	19.1	2		14	335	19.9

\* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population. Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 3,388. Total population at all ages 16,661; Number of inhabited houses 3,204; Average number of persons per house 5; at Census of 1901. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—County Hospital, Durham; Infirmary Sunderland; Union Workhouse, Bishop Auckland; County Lunatic Asylum, Sedgfield; Newton Hall Lunatic Asylum. Other Institutions (deaths)—Isolation Hospital, Spennymoor.

**(II) Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1904 and previous years.  
Spennymoor Urban District.**

Name of Localities	URBAN DISTRICT.				SPENNYMOOR WARD.				FERRYHILL WARD.				TUDHOE WARD.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
1896	16665	620	337	118	6973	229	141	45	3019	133	58	22	7864	270	135	37
1897	16665	632	288	104	6973	259	117	58	3019	102	58	28	7864	291	107	37
1898	16665	652	345	141	6973	259	140	58	3019	128	61	28	7864	280	140	55
1899	16665	667	395	149	6973	247	138	51	3019	137	73	28	7864	280	174	70
1900	16665	664	332	110	6685	271	140	47	2705	128	51	20	7900	280	141	43
1901	16672	654	413	153	6052	243	180	68	2769	128	71	35	7840	255	164	50
1902	16701	656	292	106	6066	243	111	46	2777	119	51	17	7858	294	124	43
1903	16729	609	267	80	6576	236	100	32	2782	114	55	16	7871	259	112	32
Average of years 1896 to 1903	16,679	644	333	120	6596	249	133	49	2888	123	59	23	7865	275	137	47
1904	16,758	653	335	111	6086	254	138	42	2788	113	64	19	7884	286	133	50

## (III)

## Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1904.

### Spennymoor Urban District.

Notifiable Disease	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Total Cases notified in each Locality.		
	At all Ages	At Ages †—Years.						Spennymoor Ward.	Ferryhill Ward.	Tudhoe Ward.
		Under 1	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upw'd.			
Small-pox ..	6			2	1	3		2	4	
Cholera										
Diphtheria	8		1	5		2		6	1	1
M'branous Croup	5		3	2				3		2
Erysipelas	33		5	7	1	19	1	18	3	12
Scarlet Fever	41	1	9	22	9			16	5	20
Typhus fever										
Enteric fever	15			2	6	7		6	2	7
Relapsing fever										
Continued fever										
Puerperal fever										
Plague										
Totals ...	108	1	18	40	17	31	1	51	15	42

No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality:—

Spennymoor Ward—Small-pox 2; Diphtheria 2; Scarlet fever 16; Enteric fever 4;  
Total—24

Ferryhill Ward—Small-pox 4; Scarlet fever 5; Enteric fever 2; Total 11.

Tudhoe Ward—Scarlet fever 11; Enteric fever 6; Total 17.

Isolation Hospitals—Spennymoor and Conjoint Small-pox Hospital at Binchester.

(IV)

**Causes of, and Ages at Death, during Year  
1904.**

**Spennymoor Urban District.**

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents whether occurring in or beyond the district.							Deaths at all ages of residents belonging to Localities whether occurring in or beyond the district.			Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All ages	Under 1	1 & under 5	5 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 65	65 & upwards	Spennymoor Ward.	F. Hill Ward.	Three Ward.	
Small-pox											
Measles	5	2	3							5	
Scarlet fever	1		1					1			
Whooping-cough	5	1	4					4		1	
Diphtheria and membranous croup	4		2	1	1			3		1	
Croup											
Fever { Typhus											
{ Enteric	4					4		2	1	1	2
{ other continued											
Epidemic influenza											
Cholera											
Plague											
Diarrhoea	20	11	8			1		11	6	3	
Enteritis	1									1	
Puerperal fever											
Erysipelas											
Other septic diseases	1			1						1	
Phthisis	15				4	11		4	2	9	
Other tubercular diseases	13	9		2	1	1		5	1	7	
Cancer, malignant disease	9					6	3	3	2	4	
Bronchitis	32	13	10		1	6	2	17	4	11	
Pneumonia	34	9	9	2		12	2	10	10	14	2
Pleurisy											
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	3					1	2	2	1		
Alcoholism											
{ Cirrhosis of liver	2					1	1	2			
Venereal diseases	1	1						1			
Premature birth	13	13						2	2	9	
Diseases and accidents of parturition	2					2			2		
Heart diseases	26			1	2	16	7	10	4	12	
Accidents	13	1	2		2	5	3	8	2	3	1
Suicides											
All other causes	131	51	9	5	3	29	34	53	27	51	11
<b>All causes</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>16</b>

# FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

## I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
<b>Factories</b> ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	29	2	
<b>Workshops</b> ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	126	11	
<b>Workplaces</b> ... ..	6		
<b>Homeworkers Premises</b> ...			
<b>Total</b> ...	161	13	

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remed'd	Referred to H. M. Inspect'r	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..				
Want of ventilation .. ..				
Overcrowding ... ..				
Want of drainage of floors ...				
Other nuisances ... ..				
Sanitary accommodations { insufficient ... ..	10	7		
{ unsuitable or defective ...				
{ not separate for sexes ...	1	1		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101) ... ..				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) ...				
Failure as regard lists of outworkers (S. 107) ...				
Giving out work to be done { unwholesome (S. 108) in premises which are { infected (S. 110)				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in premises infected by scarlet fever or smallpox (S. 109)				
Other offences ... ..				
<b>Total</b> ... ..	11	8		

### 3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.							
<b>Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—</b>								
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act (S. 133) ... ..	15							
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5) {	1							
Notified by H.M. Inspector								
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors	1							
Other ... ..								
<b>Underground Bakehouses (S. 101):—</b>								
In use during 1903 ... ..								
Certificates granted { in 1903 ... ..								
} in 1904 .. ..								
In use at the end of 1904 .. ..								
<b>Homework :—</b>								
<i>List of Outworkers (S. 107) :—</i>								
Lists received .. ..	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Number of</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Lists.</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Out-workers</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Number of		Lists.	Out-workers			
Number of								
Lists.	Out-workers							
Address of outworkers { forwarded to other Authorities ... ..								
} received from other Authorities ... ..								
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises :—</i>								
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108)	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Wearing Apparel</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Other</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Wearing Apparel	Other					
Wearing Apparel	Other							
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers premises								
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110)								
<b>Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of 1904.</b>								
<table border="0" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr> <td rowspan="2" style="font-size: 3em; vertical-align: middle;">}</td> <td style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.</td> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Factories ... ..</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	}	Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	Factories ... ..	17				79
}		Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here.	Factories ... ..	17				
Total Number of workshops on Register ..	96							

Summary of Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department during the year 1904, in the Urban District of Spennymoor.

<i>I. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.</i>		Number of Informal written Notices by Inspector.	Number of Formal Notices by order of Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling houses and Schools.	Foul Conditions ... Structural Defects ... Overcrowding ...	32	55	76
Lodging-houses	...	1		1
†Dairies and Milkshops	...		92	92
Cowsheds	...		25	18
Bakehouse	...	2		2
Slaughter-house	...		134	134
*Ashpits and Privies	...	99	217	271
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	4		4
Waterclosets	...	3		3
‡Defective Yard Paving	...	48	95	119
House Drainage	Defective traps ... [Sewers] No Disconnections from Other Faults ...	12 42	9 7	16 41
Water Supply	...			
Pigsties	...		16	4
Animals Improperly Kept	...			
Offensive Trade	...			
Smoke Nuisances	...			
Other Nuisances	...	16	18	28
Totals	...	259	668	809

† Notices to Limewash.

\* 325 Ashpits and privies have been replaced by Earthboxes or Water Closets.

‡ In addition Footpaths and Sinks have been provided behind 58 houses.

<i>II. Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.</i>	Number	Remarks.
Formal Notices served	1	
Dwellings dealt with	1	
Dwellings made habitable after formal notice	42	Notices were served in December 1903.
Closing Orders applied for		
Closing Orders granted by Magistrates		
Dwellings permanently closed		
<i>III. Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.</i>		
Action taken, Notices served, &c.	14	These have all been inspected and 11 Notices served to provide privy accommodation. 3 to Limeswash.
<i>IV. Water, Food and Drugs.</i>		
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	2	
„ „ condemned as unfit for use..		One not satisfactory
Seizures of Unwholesome Food		
Convictions for exposing or selling Unwholesome Food		
Samples of Food and Drugs taken for Analysis		
„ „ found Adulterated		
<i>V. Precautions against Infectious Disease.</i>		
Lots of Infectious Bedding stoved or destroyed	23	
Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	65	
Schools do do do do	8	All schools are disinfected twice per week, and fumigated with sulphur during holidays.
Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things		
Convictions for do do do		

4th January, 1905.

ARTHUR DOWDELL, Inspector of Nuisances.

To Dr. HILL, The County Medical Officer of Health, Durham.



