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Contributors

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1909.
REPORT OF THE
Medical Officer of Health.

TO THE
Chairman & Members of Spennymoor Urban District Council

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Report for the year 1909.

The District.—This remains the same. The area 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, on the West by the Highway from the river Wear to the Railway from Binchester Colliery.

Industries.—The chief is coal mining. The Tudhoe Ironworks have two blast furnaces in operation, also two sets of coke ovens with chemical plant. Whilst the latter in common with the gas works in the district often give off an unpleasant odour, I have no reason to think they have any detrimental effect on the health of the district. There are engineering works at Merrington Lane and Barnfield Road, a large electric power station in the grounds of the Tudhoe Ironworks, brick works at Merrington Lane and Tudhoe Colliery, and a saw mill at Tudhoe.

Population.—According to the census of 1901 the population was 16,661. The number of inhabited houses was 3,204 and the average number of inmates 5. The number of dwelling houses erected since then is 239, and the population at the middle of 1909 is estimated at 16,900. I am of opinion that the estimate is below the actual numbers, especially in the Ferryhill Ward.

Births.—There were 686 births registered during the year, a decrease of 26 on 1908. This gives a birth of 40·5 as compared with 42·1 for 1908. The county birth rate is 35·5 and that of England and Wales 25·6. Though there is a small decline in the birth rate it is still above the county average and much above that of the country generally. The birth rates in the 3 wards respectively are—Spennymoor 42, Ferryhill 56, and Tudhoe 33.

Deaths.—The number of deaths of residents which occurred within the district was 293, equal to a death rate of 17·3 per 1,000. If we add to this 20 deaths of residents which occurred in Institutions outside the district we get a total of 313, equal to a death rate of 18·5. The total number of deaths in 1908 was 314 and the death rate 18·6, so that there is a decrease of 1.

The county death rate is 15·7 and that of England and Wales 14·5, so that we are still much above the average. Of the causes of death bronchitis and pneumonia came first with 58, diarrhœa and enteritis are responsible for 32, heart disease for 26, consumption 21, premature births 17, and measles 14. There were 21 deaths from consumption as compared with 13 in 1908 and 18 in 1907. The deaths from cancer numbered 9 as compared with 15 in 1908, 18 in 1907, and 22 in 1906. Comparing the different wards the death rate in Spennymoor Ward is 18·7, Ferryhill 20·5, Tudhoe 17·6. I am of opinion that the difference is more apparent than real as the population in the Ferryhill Ward is probably underestimated.

Infant Mortality.—The deaths of infants under 1 year of age numbered 118, equal to an infantile mortality rate of 172 per 1,000 births. The number is 3 in excess of 1908 and 11 per 1,000 higher. The county infantile mortality rate is 124 and that of England and Wales 109. The rate for the district is therefore much higher than it should be. Of the causes of death, diarrhœa and enteritis again head the list with a total of 29. Premature birth is responsible for 17. Wasting diseases, atrophy and marasmus for 17, convulsions 14, bronchitis 13, pneumonia 11. Taking diarrhœa, enteritis, atrophy and marasmus together we find that 46, or 39% are due to these diseases which are largely due to improper or careless feeding and for the most part preventable. Premature birth of which the causes are antenatal is responsible for 17 deaths. There is practically no factory work carried on by women of the district so that that cause which is operative in some districts does not obtain here. Convulsions are often due to gastric intestinal disease due to improper feeding. Bronchitis and pneumonia account for 24 deaths. As I have previously reported these diseases are often caused by exposing young children to cold night air, especially if they are taken from badly ventilated and over heated rooms. In my opinion the practice which is fairly common in the district, of several members of the family sleeping in the common living room is not conducive to health. In my opinion too, the health of the district would be better if there were more open bedroom windows. I often go into bedrooms in which, to one coming in from the open air, the atmosphere strikes one as foul and stuffy. It is difficult to believe that anyone breathing such an atmosphere for any length of time could feel well and vigorous.

Spennymoor Urban District has an unenviable reputation, a high death rate and a high infantile mortality rate. In the year 1907 the death rate was the highest in the county. The Council have made great efforts to improve matters in this respect by improving the sanitary surroundings of the houses. Though this appears to have an appreciable effect the result has not been nearly as satisfactory as one would have hoped, and had reason to expect.

In nearly every annual report and on various other occasions I have expressed my views to the Council. In my opinion the high death rate is largely dependent on the high infantile mortality rate, and the first will not be appreciably diminished unless some effective steps be taken to reduce the latter. Such a large proportion of the deaths of young children are every year due to diarrhœa and wasting diseases. The only effectual way to prevent these deaths is to try and combat the carelessness and ignorance of the mothers. I believe at Shildon and Brandon the appointment of a lady health inspector has had a satisfactory effect. With regard to the Notification of Births Act, I have advised the Council that in the absence of a Health Inspector to follow up the notifications it would be useless to adopt it.

Zymotic Diseases.—The diseases usually included under this heading are scarlet fever, diphtheria, enteric fever, continued fever, measles, whooping cough, and diarrhœa. The number of deaths from these diseases is :—diphtheria, 2 ; enteric fever, 1 ; measles, 14 ; diarrhœa and enteritis, 32 ; total 49—Giving a zymotic death rate of 2·9 per 1,000. The county zymotic death rate is 1·61.

Scarlet Fever.—There was a marked increase in the number of cases of this disease notified—60 as compared with 52 in 1908, and 40 in 1907. The majority of cases were of a mild type and no doubt it is due to this fact that some of them fail to be notified and thus spread the disease. Two instances of this came to light, in one case two children were notified as suffering from scarlet fever in June. On investigation another child was found to have had a sore throat and rash about 3 weeks earlier, and was found to be peeling. The first child had not been seen by a doctor. A case of scarlet fever was notified in September and on enquiry an elder sister was found to have suffered from a sore throat a fortnight earlier. She was found to be peeling. Six members of this family were within a short time found to be suffering from scarlet fever and were removed to the hospital. A few cases appeared to be due to school infection. There were a few return cases. In one case a woman, age 26, who appeared to be responsible for two infections, it was thought that the return cases were due to her hair not having been thoroughly disinfected. She was sent back to hospital and her hair thoroughly disinfected, and no more cases arose.

I observed in June that several cases arose in one milk supply in the district as well as several severe sore throats, I went to the farm and inspected the milkers. They all appeared to be healthy but as one had had a slight indefinite illness a week or so previously, (probably not scarlet fever) I requested that he should be kept from the milking and also that all the cows udders should be washed with weak disinfectant, this was done but cases

continued to arise. I therefore obtained the consent of the chairman of the Health Committee to call in a veterinary surgeon. Mr Snaith of Bishop Auckland visited the farm with me and the Sanitary Inspector. He reported all the cows as being healthy but noticed that some of the tails were dirty as though the cows had been in dirty water. We then visited the pasture and found in one part a muddy ditch into which the drainage from some cottages at Whitworth emptied, and there were marks of the cows having been in the ditch. On reporting this to the Health Committee they at once sent a deputation to interview the agent of the Whitworth Estate. He willingly agreed to have the ditch fenced in to prevent the cows getting into it. The cottages have since been drained into the common sewer. These measures at once brought the epidemic to a close, so that I think Mr Snaith's opinion was fully confirmed.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.—There were 14 cases of this disease notified as compared with 10 in 1908. All excepting 2 of these cases occurred at St. Mary's Home, Tudhoe. An epidemic of 10 cases arose in September about 70 cases follicular tonsillitis occurring at the same time. For some 2 or 3 years past there have been recurring epidemics of sore throats in this home and hitherto the cause had not been ascertained. The milk was suspected and has since been all boiled but this failed to stop the epidemic. The drains had several times been tested by the smoke test without revealing any defects. In September the Sanitary Inspector had the exit of the drains blocked and large quantities of water poured into the drains. The water was found to disappear as fast as it was poured into the drains. It was then decided to open up the drains and it was discovered that nearly every joint was defective. Since then the whole of the drains have been relaid and it is to be hoped these epidemics will now cease. In the two cases occurring outside the home no source of infection could be traced.

Enteric Fever.—Seven cases of Enteric Fever were notified as compared with 42 in 1908 and 17 in 1907. This is a marked decrease. This too is the first of several years in which there has not been a small epidemic of Enteric Fever in the autumn. The last case was notified in July. In March there was reason to suspect that the disinfecting powder supplied to the Council by two firms of repute and guaranteed to contain 15% of tar acids was defective. Samples were therefore sent to the County Analyst who reported as follows:—'Carbolic Powder in bulk less than 10% of tar acids,—Carbolic Powder in packets 4%.' As these powders would be practically valueless as disinfectants the contracts were at once cancelled. A supply was then obtained from a local chemist guaranteed to contain 15% of tar acids but on analysis this was found to contain only 7% and 12% respectively. Since then the

powder has been obtained from a London firm of high repute and the results have been more satisfactory. I think these facts should be widely known. In addition to the financial involved loss from using worthless powder but from a public health point of view their use would be perfectly valueless in checking the spread of disease. It may be a coincidence but we have had no cases of Enteric Fever notified since a better powder has been used. I am aware that at the present day in many quarters disinfectants are thought to be of little value. I am of opinion however that with a dry system of excrement disposal such as obtains in this district they are of value. 1st—They have some bactericidal and antiseptic power. 2nd—They tend to keep flies from the closets. No cases were traced to shell fish this year.

Whooping Cough.—There were a few cases in the district in the early part of the year but for the greater part it has been free from the disease. There were no deaths.

Measles.—This disease has been prevalent in the district for the last six months of the year and has been responsible for 14 deaths, the larger number 11 occurring in the second year of life. Most of the deaths were from broncho pneumonia. The largest mortality was in the Tudhoe Ward.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis.—Were certified as the cause of death in 32 cases, of which 29 occurred in children under 1 year. In 1908 there were 35 deaths but as the summer in that year was much warmer I cannot report any improvement. The large number of deaths which occur every year from these diseases is a great blot on the district. They occur almost entirely on bottle fed children and as I have repeatedly stated the larger number of them might be prevented. The milk supply of the district is in anything but a satisfactory state and I should strongly advise all householders to boil all milk before use and to take special precautions to prevent it being contaminated by flies during the summer and autumn.

Infectious Diseases Notification Act.—There were 116 cases of infectious disease, an increase of 2 on 1908. The increase occurred in scarlet fever, 16 ; erysipelas, 14 ; and diphtheria 6. There was a large decrease in the number of enteric fever cases, viz 35.

The number of cases of each disease notified were—scarlet fever, 68 cases ; diphtheria, 16 ; erysipelas, 23 ; enteric fever, 7 ; puerperal fever, 2. They were distributed as follows :—

| | Scarlet | Diphtheria | Erysipelas | Enteric | Puerperal |
|-----------------|---------|------------|------------|---------|-----------|
| Spennymoor Ward | 16 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 1 |
| Ferryhill Ward | 16 | ... | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Tudhoe Ward | 36 | 14 | 13 | 4 | |

The increase in the number of erysipelas cases was in my opinion more apparent than real. It is an indefinite disease and there appears to be great diversity in the practice of individual practitioners in the matter of diagnosis. In my opinion the retention of erysipelas on the list of notifiable diseases serves no good purpose and it would be well to remove it from the list.

Infectious Diseases Isolation Hospital.—The following is a list of the admissions and discharges during the year :—

| | Scarlet Fever | Enteric Fever | Diphtheria |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| In Hospital, Jan. 1, '09 | 5 | 3 | ... |
| Admitted during year | 60 | 6 | 14 |
| Discharged cured | 56 | 9 | 13 |
| In Hospital Dec. 31, '09 | 8 | ... | ... |
| Died | 1 | ... | 1 |

There were 2 deaths in the hospital during the year, 1 from diphtheria. The other occurred in a scarlet fever patient, who after admission developed measles which he had contracted outside and died from broncho pneumonia. Unfortunately 3 other scarlet fever patients took the disease but none of them proved fatal.

There have been several changes in the nursing staff during the year which is unfortunate as frequent changes in the staff do not tend to produce the best results from the hospital.

Precautionary Measures:—The means taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease are—the adoption of the Infectious Diseases Notification Act and the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, an Isolation Hospital with nurses in residence and equipped with a steam disinfecting apparatus and an ambulance. Arrangements have also been made for the isolation of small pox patients in a joint hospital at Binchester Whins. There have been no cases of small pox notified during the year. The council's hospital is capable of dealing with three diseases concurrently viz. :—scarlet fever, diphtheria and enteric fever.

Infectious Diseases Notification Act Extension.—I would again call the attention of the Council to my recommendation of last year that anthrax, glanders and hydrophobia occurring in man should be added to the list of notifiable diseases. From my past experience I should say the number of these diseases likely to occur is very small, but in the event of one occurring, the information is likely to be of service. With regard to phthisis as I reported last year the Council did not think it advisable to add this disease to the list of notifiable diseases. I should like, however, to call their attention to my recommendation that the medical men of the district should be asked to furnish me with immediate notice of the death of any person from phthisis in order

that the rooms, bedding, etc., used by the patient, should be thoroughly disinfected.

Water Supply—is from the Weardale and Consett reservoirs and is pure water of excellent quality for all purposes. No progress has been made in the matter of a purer supply to outlying farms in the district, the obstacle being chiefly one of expense. I would specially report that the supply to High Whitworth Farm and Tudhoe Mill Farm is in my opinion unsatisfactory.

Milk Supply.—The whole of the cowsheds and dairies have been inspected and the notices with regard to whitewashing have been complied with. A recommendation from the County Medical Officer that the allowance of air space required by the bye-laws should be increased to 600 cubic feet was debated by the Council. It was decided that in registering new sheds, this should be adopted as a minimum, but that it was not to apply to cowsheds already registered. The Inspector reports that there are only 2 cowsheds in the district which are below this requirement. I am pleased to report that the cowshed at Burton Beck Farm which I have previously reported as damp and insanitary has been put into a satisfactory state. Two dealers in the district have recently been convicted of supplying milk which the analyst considered contained added water. Whilst the cowsheds are all in accordance with the bye-laws, there is room for greater cleanliness in the way the cows are kept, the condition of their udders and in many cases the hands of milkers.

There is no system of veterinary inspection of cows in the district with a view to the detection of tuberculous cows. In my opinion it is highly desirable that some such system should be established. One case came to my knowledge in which the milk from a tuberculous cow had been sold in the district, but unfortunately I did not hear of it until the cow had been destroyed. No doubt there are other such cows but it is impossible to deal with them without a systematic inspection by a veterinary surgeon. In view of the fact that the number of deaths from consumption is increasing, it is important that something should be done in the matter.

Slaughter Houses.—There are 31 slaughter houses spread all over the district. They are regularly inspected twice a year, but anything like a systematic inspection during slaughtering, considering the large number, would be quite impossible for the Inspector with his multifarious duties. The Inspector does not hold a special certificate for meat inspection. The Inspector and myself keep an eye on the shops and stalls in the market, but except in gross cases of disease we should be unlikely to detect tuberculosis in this way.

Sewerage and Drainage.—This remains in the same unsatisfactory condition. There are sewage disposal works for the Spennymoor Ward but these have become practically useless. There are no sewage disposal works for the Ferryhill and Tudhoe Wards. At present most of the sewage finds its way into the Wear in an unpurified condition. The matter has occupied the attention of the Council during the whole year, but numerous delays have occurred and it is progressing very slowly. On August 10th, Mr. Drury, one of the Local Government Board Inspectors, held an inquiry with reference to the Council's application, for sanction to borrow money for purposes of sewerage and sewage disposal. The Local Government Board, in a letter dated Sept. 23rd, after pointing out various alterations which they recommend in the plans, state that they will not be prepared to sanction a loan in respect to the purchase of a site for the disposal works until the price has been settled. The Council having exhausted every means to come to what they consider to be a reasonable settlement with the owner of the land have passed a resolution to acquire the necessary land by compulsory purchase.

Disposal of Excrement and House Refuse.—Formerly nearly all the houses in the district were provided with midden privies and open ash-pits. For some years past the Council have been pressing the property owners to convert these into ash closets. In May of this year the County Medical Officer asked for a return of the various closets in the district and the following report was furnished :—

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Water closets | 234 |
| Earth closets | 2497 |
| Covered midden privies ... | 484 |
| Open midden privies | 458 |
| Pan closets | 6 |

From the above return it will be seen that the work of converting open midden privies into earth closets is well on the way to completion. It is doubtful if the Council can compel the conversion of the covered midden privies into ash closets. The larger number of the open midden privies are the property of the Wear-dale Steel, Coal and Coke Company. The Company are converting these into ash closets at the rate of 60 or 70 per annum so that the work should be completed in a few years. I cannot advise any immediate action to hasten the conversion of earth closets into water closets for two reasons : 1st—Until a proper system of sewage disposal is carried out in the district an increase in the number of water closets would simply increase the amount of sewage pollution of the river Wear ; 2nd—As most of the property owners have within the last few years been put to the expense of building earth closets to meet the requirements of the

Council, it would not be fair to come down on them so soon to go to the expense of converting them into water closets. With regard to new houses, the Council are still allowing earth closets to be built, but no doubt when the drainage scheme is carried through, new houses will be required to be provided with water closets. There can be no doubt that the latter are far more sanitary than the former. I have grave doubts however that, with the class of population we have in the district, whether in many cases water closets would not be constantly getting out of order owing to neglect and improper usage. The Inspector is constantly finding yard gullies blocked which the tenants are too lazy or careless to clear.

The work of cleansing the ash closets and middens is let out to contractors by the Council. This work requires constant supervision. On the whole the work has been better done this year than last. In my last report I called attention to the closing of a refuse tip at Whitworth, which was causing the refuse to be deposited in most unsuitable places. I therefore advised the erection of a refuse destructor. Since then the Council have made arrangements with the land agent to the owners of the Whitworth Estate to allow this tip to be used again. The matter of a refuse destructor is therefore far less urgent than it was though it is undoubtedly desirable.

Lodging Houses :—There are five lodging houses registered in the district. The Model bye-laws have been adopted. As a rule the houses have been kept clean and well conducted. A year or two back there was insufficient lodging house accommodation in the district but this year the accommodation has been more than sufficient. Proceedings were taken against one person for keeping an unregistered lodging house and a conviction obtained.

Offensive Trades :—There are two establishments that come under this head in the district, viz.—two knacker yards. These are kept clean and give rise to no nuisance.

Van Dwellers :—The ground in the market square is still used by many of these undesirable residents. Water supply and closets have been provided. One however often hears complaints of the dirty and often indecent habits of the occupants and in my opinion it would be a good thing if the ground was closed to them.

Schools (Public Elementary).—The two schools I have previously reported on, viz.—the Cheapside Council and the Coulson Street Council Schools are still being used. The sanitary offices though temporarily improved are not in my opinion in a satisfactory state. I believe however new schools are to be built in both instances during the coming year. The Spennymoor Church of England School has during the year been much improved and is now in a satisfactory condition. It has not been

deemed advisable to close any of the schools in the district on account of the prevalence of infectious disease.

Sanitary Work during 1909.—ninety six earth closets have been substituted for ash pit privies, 31 yards have been relaid or repaired, 16 floors have been relaid in cement, at St. Mary's Home, Tudhoe, 9 flush water closets have been substituted for flush closets and the whole of the drainage has been relaid, a row of cottages at Whitworth which formerly drained into a ditch have been connected with the common sewer.

Housing of the Working Classes Act.—There is much less congestion in the the district than formerly and consequently less overcrowding. For the first time for some years "To Let" cards are seen in the windows of some of the houses in Spennymoor Ward. A few cases of overcrowding have been dealt with in Ferryhill Ward.

At the request of the Local Government Board I have furnished them with two reports on the Practice of Medicine and Surgery by unqualified persons in the district. I have also furnished them with a report on the number of cases of enteric fever notified and the number of deaths from diarrhoea which have occurred in the district.

Factory and Workshops Act.—153 inspections of factories and workshops have been made; 5 sanitary defects were found, and 4 of these have been remedied. There are no outworkers in the district.

Public Health Act Amendment Acts.—The Council have decided to ask the sanction of the Local Government Board for the adoption of the following parts :—

- 2 Streets and Buildings.
- 3 Sanitary Provisions.
- 4 Infectious Diseases.
- 5 Common Lodging Houses.
- 6 Recreation Grounds.

Your obedient servant,

W. MUSSELLWHITE.

(1) **Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1909 and Previous Years.**
Name of District—Spennymoor Urban.

| YEAR. | Population estimated to Middle of each Year. | BIRTHS. | | TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT. | | | | Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District | Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District | Deaths of Residents in Public Institutions beyond the District | Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District. | |
|-------------------------|--|---------|-------|--|-------------|--------|-------|---|---|--|--|-------|
| | | Number | Rate* | Under 1 Year of Age. | At all Ages | Number | Rate* | | | | Number | Rate* |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1899 | 16665 | 667 | 40 | 149 | 223 | 385 | 23.1 | | | 10 | 395 | 23.7 |
| 1900 | 16665 | 664 | 39.8 | 110 | 165 | 328 | 19.6 | | | 4 | 332 | 19.9 |
| 1901 | 16672 | 654 | 39.2 | 153 | 233 | 403 | 24.1 | | | 10 | 413 | 24.8 |
| 1902 | 16701 | 656 | 39.2 | 105 | 161 | 286 | 17.1 | | | 6 | 292 | 17.4 |
| 1903 | 16729 | 609 | 36.4 | 80 | 131 | 249 | 14.8 | | | 18 | 267 | 15.9 |
| 1904 | 16758 | 653 | 33.9 | 111 | 169 | 321 | 19.1 | | | 14 | 335 | 19.9 |
| 1905 | 16786 | 621 | 37 | 140 | 223 | 339 | 20 | | | 16 | 355 | 21.1 |
| 1906 | 16814 | 635 | 37.7 | 99 | 155 | 291 | 17.3 | | | 16 | 307 | 18.2 |
| 1907 | 16842 | 693 | 41.1 | 107 | 154 | 348 | 20.6 | | | 17 | 365 | 21 |
| 1908 | 16870 | 712 | 42.1 | 114 | 169 | 297 | 17.6 | | | 17 | 314 | 18.6 |
| Averages for years 1898 | 16750 | 656 | 39.1 | 116 | 178 | 324 | 19.3 | | | 12.8 | 337 | 20 |
| 1909 | 16900 | 686 | 40.5 | 118 | | 293 | 17.3 | 2 | | 20 | 313 | 18.5 |

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population. Total population at all ages, 16661—Number of inhabited houses, 3204—Average number of persons per house, 5—Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 3388. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District:—Durham County Hospital; Lady Eden Hospital, Bishop Auckland; Workhouse Infirmary, Durham; Workhouse Infirmary, Bishop Auckland; Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster; and Durham County Asylum, Sedgelyield.

(11)

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1909 and previous years.

Name of District—Spennymoor Urban.

| Name of Localities | URBAN DISTRICT. | | | | SPENNYMOOR WARD. | | | | FERRYHILL WARD. | | | | TUDHOE WARD. | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| | Population estimated to middle of each year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. | Population estimated to middle of each year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. | Population estimated to middle of each year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. | Population estimated to middle of each year. | Births registered. | Deaths at all Ages. | Deaths under 1 year. |
| 1899 | 16665 | 667 | 395 | 149 | 6973 | 259 | 138 | 51 | 3019 | 128 | 73 | 28 | 7864 | 280 | 174 | 70 |
| 1900 | 16665 | 664 | 332 | 110 | 6685 | 247 | 140 | 47 | 2705 | 137 | 54 | 20 | 7900 | 280 | 141 | 43 |
| 1901 | 16672 | 654 | 413 | 153 | 6052 | 271 | 180 | 68 | 2769 | 128 | 71 | 35 | 7846 | 255 | 164 | 50 |
| 1902 | 16701 | 656 | 292 | 105 | 6066 | 243 | 111 | 46 | 2777 | 119 | 51 | 17 | 7858 | 294 | 124 | 43 |
| 1903 | 16729 | 609 | 267 | 80 | 6976 | 236 | 100 | 32 | 2782 | 114 | 55 | 16 | 7871 | 259 | 142 | 32 |
| 1904 | 16758 | 653 | 335 | 111 | 6086 | 254 | 138 | 42 | 2788 | 113 | 64 | 19 | 7884 | 286 | 133 | 50 |
| 1905 | 16786 | 621 | 355 | 140 | 6097 | 224 | 155 | 54 | 2793 | 115 | 69 | 34 | 7896 | 282 | 134 | 53 |
| 1906 | 16814 | 635 | 307 | 99 | 6106 | 247 | 126 | 43 | 2800 | 108 | 57 | 18 | 7908 | 260 | 124 | 38 |
| 1907 | 16842 | 693 | 365 | 107 | 6116 | 251 | 151 | 45 | 2806 | 150 | 81 | 23 | 7920 | 292 | 133 | 39 |
| 1908 | 16870 | 712 | 314 | 115 | 6126 | 275 | 108 | 41 | 2813 | 131 | 69 | 28 | 7931 | 306 | 137 | 46 |
| Average of years 1899 to 1908 | 16750 | 656 | 324 | 116 | 6238 | 250 | 134 | 47 | 2821 | 124 | 64 | 23 | 7887 | 279 | 140 | 46 |
| 1909 | 16900 | 686 | 313 | 118 | 6137 | 261 | 115 | 34 | 2821 | 158 | 58 | 32 | 7942 | 267 | 140 | 52 |

(III)

**Cases of Infectious Disease notified during
the year 1909.**

Name of District—Spennymoor Urban.

| 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'ds | | | |
| Small-pox .. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cholera | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diphtheria | 16 | | 1 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | 14 | |
| M'ranous Croup | | | | | | | | | | |
| Erysipelas | 23 | 3 | | 1 | 1 | 18 | 8 | 2 | 13 | |
| Scarlet Fever | 68 | 1 | 16 | 35 | 12 | 4 | 16 | 16 | 36 | |
| Typhus fever | | | | | | | | | | |
| Enteric fever | 7 | | | 2 | | 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | |
| Relapsing fever | | | | | | | | | | |
| Continued fever | | | | | | | | | | |
| Puerperal fever | 2 | | | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | | |
| Plague | | | | | | | | | | |
| Totals ... | 116 | 4 | 17 | 50 | 15 | 30 | 28 | 21 | 67 | |

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

Spennymoor Ward—Diphtheria 2 ; Scarlet fever 12 ; Enteric fever 1 ; Total—15.

Ferryhill Ward—Scarlet fever 16 ; Enteric fever 2 ; Total—18.

Tudhoe Ward—Diphtheria 12 ; Scarlet fever 32 ; Enteric fever 3 ; Total—47.

Total cases removed to Hospital—Diphtheria 14 ; Scarlet fever 60 ; Enteric fever 6 ; Total—80.

Isolation Hospital—Spennymoor Urban District Council's Hospital, total available beds 21, number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated 3.

(IV.)
Causes of, and Age at, Death during Year 1909
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. | | | Total deaths, whether residents or non-residents, in public institutions in the District. |
|--|--|---------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--|--------------|-----------------|---|
| | All ages | Under 1 | 1 & under 5 | 5 & under 15 | 15 & under 25 | 25 & under 65 | 65 & upwards. | Spennymoor Ward. | F'hill Ward. | T'hoeward Ward. | |
| Small-pox .. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Measles ... | 14 | 3 | 11 | | | | | 2 | 1 | 11 | 1 |
| Scarlet fever ... | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whooping-cough ... | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diphtheria and membranous croup | 2 | | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Croup ... | 1 | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | |
| Fever { Typhus | | | | | | | | | | | |
| { Enteric | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | |
| { Other continued | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Epidemic influenza ... | 2 | | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| Cholera ... | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plague ... | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diarrhœa ... | 20 | 20 | | | | | | 9 | 5 | 6 | |
| Enteritis ... | 12 | 9 | 3 | | | | | 5 | 3 | 4 | |
| Puerperal fever ... | 2 | | | | | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Erysipelas ... | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Phthisis ... | 21 | | | | 3 | 18 | | 8 | 4 | 9 | |
| Other tuberculous diseases ... | 6 | | 3 | 1 | 2 | | | 3 | 1 | 2 | |
| Cancer, malignant disease ... | 9 | | | 1 | | 5 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | |
| Bronchitis ... | 30 | 13 | 5 | | | 6 | 6 | 17 | 2 | 11 | |
| Pneumonia ... | 28 | 11 | 7 | 2 | | 4 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 15 | |
| Pleurisy ... | 3 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | |
| Other diseases of Respiratory organs ... | 1 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Alcoholism | | | | | | | | | | | |
| { Cirrhosis of liver | 5 | | | | | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | |
| Venereal diseases ... | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Premature birth ... | 17 | 17 | | | | | | 7 | 4 | 6 | |
| Diseases and accidents of parturition | 5 | 2 | | | 2 | 1 | | 2 | 1 | 2 | |
| Heart diseases ... | 26 | | | 1 | 1 | 16 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 13 | 1 |
| Accidents ... | 8 | | | 2 | 3 | 3 | | 2 | 2 | 4 | |
| Suicides ... | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Apoplexy ... | 17 | | | | | 8 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 10 | |
| All other causes ... | 82 | 42 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 19 | 23 | 22 | 37 | |
| All causes | 313 | 118 | 35 | 10 | 14 | 80 | 56 | 115 | 58 | 140 | 3 |

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. |
| Factories (Including Factory Laundries) | 35 | | |
| Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries) | 108 | 5 | |
| Workplaces | 10 | | |
| Homeworkers Premises ... | | | |
| Total ... | 153 | | |

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

| Particulars. | Number of Defects. | | | Number of Prosecutions. |
|--|--------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Found. | Remed'd | Referred to H. M. Inspector | |
| <i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i> | | | | |
| Want of cleanliness | | | | |
| Want of ventilation | | | | |
| Overcrowding | | | | |
| Want of drainage of floors ... | | | | |
| Other nuisances | | | | |
| Sanitary accommodation { insufficient | | | | |
| { unsuitable or defective | 5 | 4 | | |
| { not separate for sexes | | | | |
| <i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :</i> | | | | |
| Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (S. 101) | | | | |
| Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) ... | | | | |
| Other offences | | | | |
| Total | 5 | 4 | | |

3.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

| Workshops on the Register (S. 131) at the end of the year. | Number. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|--|
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-size: small; margin-right: 10px;"> Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses, may be enumerated here. </div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; padding-left: 10px;"> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Factories</td> <td style="width: 10%;">...</td> <td style="width: 10%;">...</td> <td style="width: 10%;">...</td> <td style="width: 10%;">...</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Workshops</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td style="text-align: right;">78</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Work-places</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td>...</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6</td> </tr> </table> </div> </div> | Factories | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 | Workshops | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78 | Work-places | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | |
| Factories | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Workshops | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Work-places | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Included in Workshops are five Bakeries but only three of them have proper bakehouses. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Number of workshops on Register .. | | | | | 109 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

4.—OTHER MATTERS.

| Class. | Number. |
|---|--|
| Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :— | |
| Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops 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) |
| Other | 3 3 |
| Underground Bakehouses (S. 101):— | |
| In use during Certificates granted } in | |
| In use at the end of .. | |

Summary of Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department during the year 1908, 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 | 44 6 2 | 7 3 | 45 7 2 |
| Lodging-houses | ... | 2 | | 2 |
| Dairies and Milkshops | ... | | | |
| †Cowsheds | ... | 4 | 81 | 83 |
| Bakehouses | ... | | | |
| ‡Slaughter-houses | ... | | 98 | 98 |
| *Ashpits and Privies | ... | 26 | 19 | 30 |
| Deposits of Refuse and Manure | ... | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Waterclosets | ... | | | |
| Defective Yard Paving | ... | 25 | 6 | 29 |
| House Drainage | Defective traps ... [Sewers No Disconnections from Other Faults | 32 | 10 | 33 |
| Water Supply | ... | | | |
| Pigsties | ... | | | |
| Animals Improperly Kept | ... | 3 | 5 | 6 |
| Offensive Trades | ... | | | |
| Smoke Nuisances | ... | 1 | | |
| Other Nuisances | ... | 16 | 8 | 23 |
| Totals | ... | 165 | 239 | 364 |

†76 of these were for Limewashing. ‡all these were for Limewashing.

* 96 Earthclosets or Waterclosets have been substituted for Ashpit privies.

| <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 | | |
| Closing Orders applied for | | |
| Closing Orders granted by Magistrates | | |
| Dwellings permanently closed | 1 | |
| <i>III.</i> | | |
| Number of new houses erected during year | 17 | |
| Number of such houses occupied during year | 17 | |
| <i>IV. Water, Food and Drugs.</i> | | |
| Samples of Water taken for Analysis | | |
| " " condemned as unfit for use.. | | |
| 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 | 18 | |
| Houses disinfected after Infectious Disease | 13 | |
| Schools do do do do | | After Measles. |
| Prosecutions for exposure of infected persons or things | | |
| Convictions for do do do | | |

7th January, 1910.

ARTHUR DOWDELL, Inspector of Nuisances.

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