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Contributors

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Borough of Thornaby-on-Tees

**MEDICAL OFFICER'S
ANNUAL REPORT**

Annual Report of M.O.H. For Year ended

Please circulate as quickly as possible.

December 31st, 1925.

~~S.M.O. III.
(86 II).~~

~~S.M.O. II.
(42 II).~~

~~S.M.O. IV.
(91 II).~~

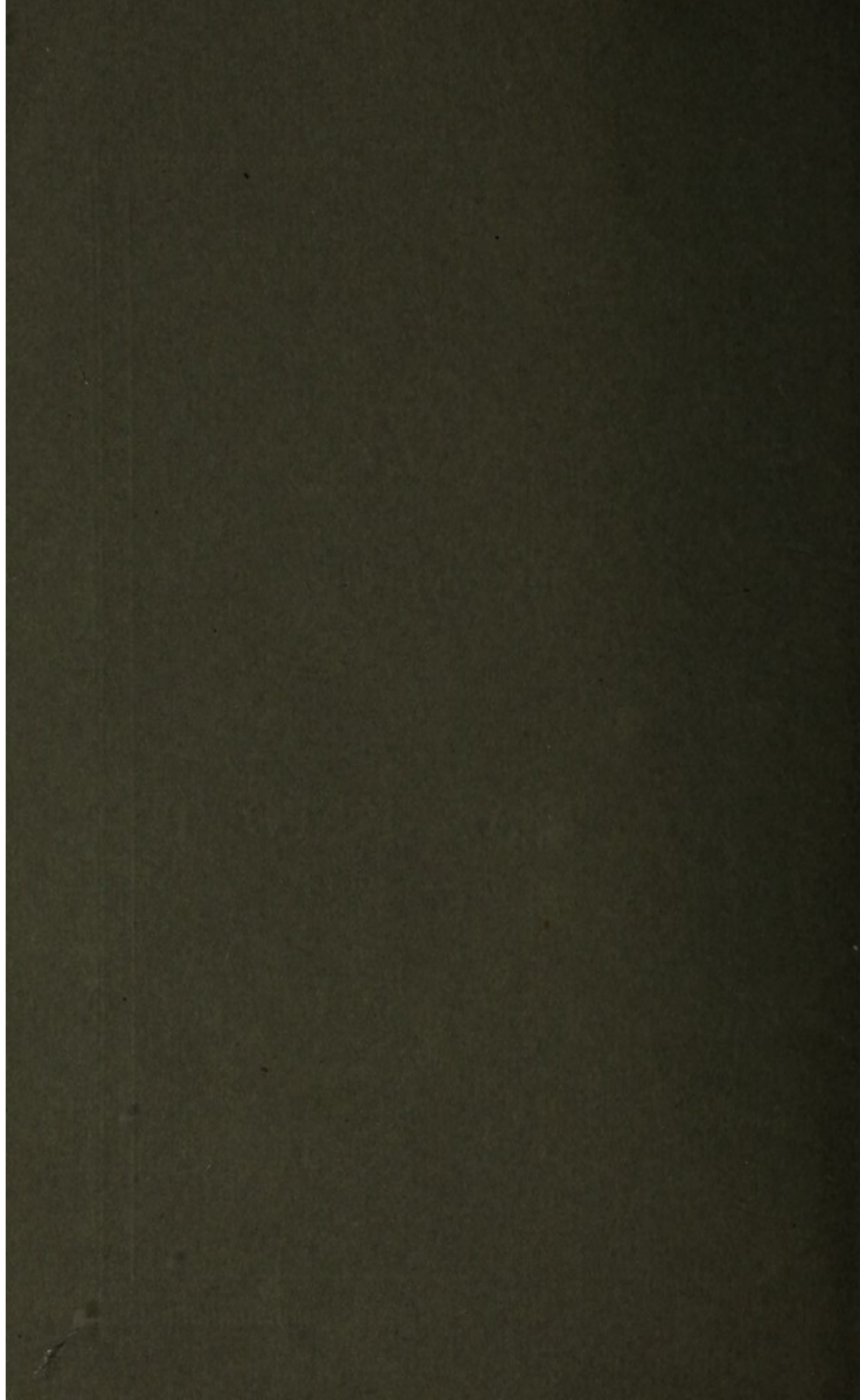
~~S.M.O. VI.
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(110 II).~~

**Thornaby-on-Tees:
H. ROBSON, 21 MANDALE ROAD.**

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1926

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BOROUGH OF THORNABY-ON-TEES.

Medical Officer's Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors.

GENTLEMEN,

I present for your consideration my Fourth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary State of your District.

The Report will be a Survey Report and will deal with the Health and Sanitary State during the past five years.

The Borough is situated on the South side of the River Tees, between Stockton on the North and Middlesbrough on the East, and covers an acreage of 1,993 acres.

The principal Industries were Iron Works, Shipbuilding, Engineering Works, Iron Foundries, Bottle Making, Sugar Refining and Confectionery Works. You will notice that I have used the word "were" instead of "are." Unfortunately I have been compelled to do so as the majority of the large labour absorbing industries are and have been closed for the past two years.

General Statistics.

Population (Estimated)	21,350
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	3,990
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)	4,174
Rateable Value	£77,027
Penny Rate yields	£253

In the year 1921 the Rateable value was £76,352

1922 £77,456

1923 £76,941

1924 £78,792

1925 £77,027

Amount of Poor Law Relief.

Vital Statistics.

	Males	Females	Rate
Births 577	306	271	27·95
Deaths 321	168	153	15·77
			Rate per 1000 Births
Illegitimate Births 24	14	10	41·5
Do. Deaths under 1 year	1	2	

Number of Women dying in consequence of Child Birth:—

From Sepsis	...	1
From other causes	...	2
		<hr/> 3

The Birth Rate for England and Wales was	...	18·3
The Death Rate	„ „	12·2

	1925		Rate per 1000 Births
Infantile Mortality, Legitimate	...	56	...
Do. Illegitimate	...	3	...
		<hr/> Total	<hr/> 102·24

	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921
Deaths from Measles	9	—	25	1	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough, all ages	...	...	—	12	2
Deaths from Diarrhœa, under 2 years	5	10	9	6	16

During the year there were 107 deaths from Respiratory Diseases, 60 from Pneumonia, 16 from Bronchitis, and one from "Other Respiratory Diseases."

This figure is exactly one-third of the total number of deaths, which was 321.

There were no other causes of death or illness calling for special mention, except that a slight outbreak of Smallpox took place. There were seven cases of Smallpox, and one case which was notified as Smallpox but eventually proved not to be Smallpox. All precautions were taken and the outbreak subsided rapidly.

If there were suitable accommodation for cases of Pneumonia I consider that the number of fatal cases would be considerably lowered, as the home conditions are in a number of instances unsuitable for the proper treatment to be carried out.

**Principal Causes of Death during Five Years,
1921—1925.**

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	Total
Pneumonia	41	67	29	61	60	258
Heart Disease	29	29	19	23	31	131
Tuberculosis (all forms)	29	38	22	24	38	151
Bronchitis	22	29	16	31	16	114
Cancer	9	19	17	14	13	72
Congenital Debility	31	28	17	26	24	126
Cerebral Diseases	21	18	14	9	27	89
Influenza	4	17	1	12	11	45
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	16	6	9	10	5	46
Whooping Cough	2	23	2	12	—	39
Measles	1	1	25	—	9	36
Diphtheria	1	2	2	3	1	9
Total	212	283	177	236	248	1156

It will be again noticed from this table that the highest Death Rate is found amongst the three Respiratory Diseases, Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Tuberculosis, Pneumonia and Bronchitis accounting for 472 deaths during the five years 1921 to 1925, or an average of 94·8 per year.

The Voluntary Hospitals and the Poor Law Hospitals are very frequently filled to their utmost capacity. Large numbers of patients attend at the outdoor departments of these Hospitals. The School Clinic and other Clinics are utilised to a very considerable extent.

Below you will find four tables showing the comparison of the various headings of Vital Statistics for the past five years, *i.e.*, Births, Illegitimate Births, Deaths and Infantile Mortality :—

Births during Five Years.

Year	Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate per 1000
1921	604	290	314	30'20
1922	578	318	260	28'30
1923	541	279	262	26'36
1924	557	262	295	26'42
1925	577	306	271	27'95
Total for 5 years	<u>2857</u>	<u>1455</u>	<u>1402</u>	<u>139'23</u>

Average age rate for 5 years 27'84.

The Birth Rate has been uniformly high and the sexes have been well balanced.

Illegitimate Births during Five Years.

Year	Total	Male	Female	Rate per 1000 Births
1921	20	5	15	33'1
1922	20	10	10	34'6
1923	24	10	14	44'3
1924	20	8	12	35'9
1925	24	14	10	41'5
Total for 5 years	<u>108</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>189'4</u>

Average rate for 5 years 37'8. That is to say that of every 1000 children born there are on an average 37'8 illegitimate.

Deaths during Five Years.

Year	Total	Male	Female	Death Rate per 1000
1921	254	134	120	12'7
1922	333	168	165	16'3
1923	237	132	105	11'5
1924	307	176	128	12'2
1925	321	168	153	15'7
Totals for 5 years	<u>1449</u>	<u>778</u>	<u>671</u>	<u>68'4</u>

Average Death Rate per 1000 of population for 5 years 13'6.

Infantile Mortality during Five Years.

Year	Total	Rate per 1000 Births
1921 ...	61	100'9
1922 ...	79	136'6
1923 ...	45	83'17
1924 ...	62	111'21
1925 ...	59	102'2

Causes of Mortality (all ages).

Measles ...	...	...	9
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	3
Diphtheria ...	...	...	1
Influenza ...	...	...	11
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	...	30
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	8
Cancer ...	...	...	13
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	3
Diabetes ...	...	...	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	15
Heart Diseases	...	...	31
Arterio Sclerosis	...	...	12
Bronchitis ...	...	...	16
Pneumonia ...	...	...	60
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	1
Ulcer of Stomach	...	...	3
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ...	...	..	5
Appendicitis	...	...	2
Nephritis (acute and chronic)	...	...	7
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	1
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	..	2
Congenital Debility and Malformation Premature Birth ...	...	...	24
Suicide ...	...	...	2
Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	11
Other Defined Diseases ...	...	...	47

Still Births.

The number of interments of still-born children was 24.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospitals. Tuberculosis :—Aysgarth Sanatorium and York Sanatorium. Both situated outside the area and subsidised by the County Council. Cases are sent to both of these Sanatoria.

Maternity. Robson Maternity Home situated at Stockton-on-Tees. Cases are sent there under special arrangement by the Local Authority.

Children. There is no Hospital for Children in the area, and there are no special arrangements for their treatment.

Fever Hospital. Cases of Infectious Diseases are sent to Middlesbrough Fever Hospital under arrangements with the Middlesbrough Corporation.

Smallpox. Cases of Smallpox are sent to Middlesbrough Smallpox Hospital, situated at Hemlington in the Rural District of Middlesbrough. The Local Authority pays an annual sum of £40. For this sum four beds are kept available.

GENERAL HOSPITAL FACILITIES EXISTING FOR TREATMENT OF OTHER DISEASES.

There is no Hospital situated in the Borough.

The needs of the Borough are supplied by the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital, situated at Stockton. 78 beds were available for the immediate needs of the population of Stockton and Thornaby, which combined some 85,000 persons. Additions are now completed which will add additional accommodation for another hundred.

The North Riding Infirmary and North Ormesby Hospital, situated in Middlesbrough, also take cases from this area, but only a limited number of the population are subscribers to these institutions. In every case where a patient is admitted to Hospital he or she must produce a subscriber's note. There are no "free" patients admitted to the General Hospitals supplying this area. The North Riding Infirmary has 150 beds available and the North Ormesby Hospital has 143 beds.

Poor Law Hospital. This institution is situated at Middlesbrough and has accommodation for 272 patients. Paying patients are also admitted to this institution according to their personal position.

The Guardians also have a Children's Hospital with accommodation for 55 patients.

Mental Hospital. York Mental Hospital supplies this area.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers. Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children. There is no provision made.

Ambulance Facilities. (a) For Infectious Cases. These are removed by a horse drawn cab specially provided for the purpose. (b) For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases. No Ambulance is provided locally for removal of cases of this description.

CLINICS.—TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name.	Situation.	Accommodation.	By whom provided.
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	... Mission Hall Chapel Street	... Waiting Room and Lecture Room combined. Dressing Room, Consulting Room and Store Room combined. Accommodation for Perambulators. Attendance 2-0 to 4-0 Tuesdays and Thursdays.	... Thornaby-on-Tees Urban District Council.
Ante Natal Centre	... None		
Day Nursery	... None		
School Clinic	... Mission Hall Chapel Street	... Same Building and Rooms as Maternity and Child Welfare.	... North Riding Yorks
Tuberculosis Dispensary	... Bowesfield Lane, ... Stockton-on-Tees	... Waiting Room Consulting Room	... North Riding Yorks County Council
Venereal Disease Clinic	... Stockton and ... Thornaby Hospital	... Waiting Room Consulting Room Injection Room Irrigation Room Attendance: Tuesdays 3-0 to 5-0 for Women. Thursdays: 6-30 to 9-30 p.m. for men.	... North Riding County Council

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

- * † D. E. YOUNG, L.R.C.P. & S.I., Medical Officer of Health and Medical Officer Maternity and Child Welfare. Part time.
- * C. KNOX, C.R.S.I. & M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector. Whole time.
- † MISS M. J. RAMSAY, General Trained Cert. C.M.B., Health Visitor. Whole time.

* One half of the salary of this Officer is paid by the Minister of Health.

† The Ministry of Health Grant in respect of Maternity and Child Welfare includes one half of the salaries of these Officers.

Professional Nursing in the Home. (a) The Stockton and Thornaby District Nursing Association make provision for General Nursing without charge. For Infectious Cases (b) cases of Measles, Whooping Cough, Puerperal Fever, Epidemic Diarrhœa, and Ophthalmia Neonatorum are treated under arrangements with the Nursing Association. For these services an annual sum of £45 is paid. The services included by the Association, both in cases of infectious diseases and non-infectious cases, are to be greatly esteemed. I cannot speak too highly of the very excellent services rendered, which are perhaps not as greatly recognised or appreciated as they should be.

Midwives. No Midwife is either employed or subsidised by the Local Authority. The local supervising body is the North Riding County Council.

There are three resident midwives practising in the district.

Chemical Work. Any work of this nature is done by the North Riding County Council.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

List of Adoptive Acts and Byelaws relating to the Public Health in force in the Borough of Thornaby-on-Tees with date of adoption.

	When adopted.
Regulations under powers conferred by the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 1886, and the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885, made	8th Aug., 1893
Byelaws. Nuisances	27th Oct., 1893
do. in respect to Common Lodging Houses	27th Oct., 1893
do. with respect to Slaughter Houses ...	27th Oct., 1893
do. with respect to Cleansing of Footways and Pavements ...	27th Oct., 1893
do. for Regulation of Offensive Trades ...	10th April, 1894
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890 ...	10th Dec., 1895
Byelaws. Removal of Offensive or Noxious Matters	28th Feb., 1896
The Public Health Act (Amendment) Act, 1907, declaring Sections 15 to 25 inclusive, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 in Part II., Part III., Sections 52 to 60 inclusive, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66 and 68 comprised in Part IV., and Parts V., VI. and X. in force in the Borough ...	20th Nov., 1908
The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, declaring Sections 79, 81, 86 and Part IX. to be in force in the Borough	15th Aug., 1908
Notification of Births Act, 1907	14th Dec., 1909
The Public Health Act, 1925, Sections 21, 22 and 44, and Sections contained in Part V. ...	15th Feb., 1926
Byelaws with respect to New Streets and Buildings	29th June, 1926

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Rivers. Thornaby-on-Tees is situated on the south bank of the River Tees. The river forms one of the Borough boundaries, separating it from the neighbouring Borough of Stockton-on-Tees and also separating the County of Yorkshire from the County of Durham.

Into this river the sewage of the Borough flows untreated. The amount of sewage increases each year as more and more conversions are completed. There is also another river called the Old River, which also acts as one of the Borough boundaries. It empties itself into the River Tees; this river separates Thornaby-on-Tees from the neighbouring Borough of Middlesbrough. The river is tidal in the neighbourhood of Thornaby-on-Tees, there being a considerable rise and fall of water.

Water. Thornaby-on-Tees is supplied with water from the Tees Valley Water Board reservoirs, situated some thirty miles away. The water is filtered through gravel and sand. It is of excellent quality. An abundant and constant supply has been maintained. It has no plumbo solvent action.

Closet Accommodation. The greater part of Thornaby-on-Tees was up to recent years provided with privy middens and moveable pans. The Sanitary Committee have realised the danger to the population which exists as a result of this out-of-date and unhealthy accommodation. They have made and still are making endeavours to convert this accommodation to that of the Water Carriage System. Difficulties are being met with, inasmuch that a number of sewers are not wholly suitable for receiving this increased quantity of sewage. This difficulty I hope, however, will be surmounted, and the whole of the Borough will in a few years have the Water Carriage System.

Below is a table shewing the progress of Conversions during the past five years :—

Year	Privy Ashpits	Pan Closets	Total
1921	199	6	205
1922	158	8	166
1923	69	10	79
1924	300	33	333
1925	329	12	341
Total	1055	69	1124

There are in existence to date ;—

Privies, Fixed Receptacles	...	1031
„ Moveable Receptacles	...	1381
Flush Water Closets	...	1880

In 1921 there were only 813 Flush Water Closets in existence.

There is a great amount of work yet to be undertaken in order to complete the conversion to the Water Carriage System.

Our neighbouring Boroughs have almost completely finished this very important work.

I trust that the Sanitary Authority of Thornaby-on-Tees will not lose sight of this very important work, and that they will do all in their power and all that financial bonds will allow in order to bring the Borough into line with its neighbours.

I consider that in all cases where middens are converted into Water Closets, that the old midden should be done away with altogether, and not used as dry ashpits or bricked in.

Scavenging. Privy Ashpits and Pan Closets are cleansed during the night and the refuse removed to tips by horse and cart. The pans and privies are sprinkled with disinfecting powder. A flush cart is provided for the purpose of washing down the back streets, which of necessity become so soiled as a result of the removal of pans containing more fluid than is desirable and from the deposit left after cleansing out middens.

As long as this system is in existence so long will there be complaints about dirty back streets. Justifiable complaints are not of such frequent occurrence now as they were some years ago.

I consider that, taking into consideration the nature of the work and the difficulties there are in carrying it out, that the scavenging of the district is done satisfactorily.

HOUSING.

General Housing Conditions of the Area.

It is estimated that there are 3,990 houses in the area. These houses are for the greater part built of brick and self contained. The majority consist of a parlour, kitchen, scullery, and either two or three bedrooms, with a small yard at the back containing coal house and sanitary accommodation.

Thornaby Village, situated about a mile away from the town, is now becoming a resident part of the Borough. A considerable number of bungalow dwellings have been built there in recent years. It is in this direction that the Borough tends to spread.

The new building site for the Council's new housing scheme is also in close proximity to Thornaby Village, and is on the outskirts of the Borough. A very desirable place for a housing scheme from a health point of view.

The only obstacle to its desirability, from the point of view of the people who are likely to occupy the houses, is the distance from their work and the distance from the shopping centre. There is a tendency for the worker to live as near his work as possible, especially if he has to make a very early start in the morning without any rapid means of transit.

Overcrowding. In spite of very great efforts having been made to alleviate overcrowding, it still exists to a deplorable extent.

Figures obtained from a census in 1924 show that at that time there were 368 houses overcrowded, inasmuch as there were more than two people to a room.

In January of this year there were 450 applicants for Council houses.

These applicants have not, of course, each received a house, there not being a sufficient number of houses, and many of the applicants not being suitable for one reason or another. However, this Borough has made great efforts to supply a very great need, and when the additional 110 houses in the course of construction are completed, I think the very pressing needs of the town will, to a great extent, have been met.

The increase or decrease in the population of the Borough in the next five years is a debatable point. The tendency for new industries to be started further down the river is probable, whereas the possibility of new industries being started within the Borough is not likely. If this supposition proves correct there will be a tendency for a proportion of the population to leave Thornaby-on-Tees in order to be nearer the new industries. There is, however, the possibility that there will not be sufficient houses near these industrial undertakings, and in that case the workers would be still compelled to live in their existing homes and travel to and from work.

Thornaby is so situated that there is easy access to the more likely places of industrial activity, and so if there is suitable housing accommodation at suitable rentage, and rates are reasonable, the Borough has a good prospect of being a very suitable place for the workers in neighbouring places to dwell, provided that rapid and suitable means of transit can be maintained at cheap rates.

There has been a tendency in recent years for non-industrial workers to live as far as conveniently possible from their work. This tendency no doubt will develop in the industrial worker also if suitable and rapid transit can be provided to and from work at reasonable rates. When this state of affairs takes place, and when sufficient houses are built in suitable places with desirable surroundings, then we may hope for a diminution of a great number

of the evils existing to-day. These exist as a result of overcrowding in badly lighted, and badly ventilated houses, situated in an atmosphere of smoke, through which sunlight rarely, if ever, penetrates in sufficiency to do what it is intended to do by nature.

If this Borough builds more houses (if its finances will allow) than at first sight would seem in excess of its future requirements, there is every prospect of these houses being occupied by suitable tenants, provided that the question of travelling to and from neighbouring places is made easy, and that rents and rates are kept at a reasonably low level.

If rates are to be made higher in an endeavour to supply new homes then the inducement for people to occupy them will be considerably less than if the rates were kept at a low level. In order to relieve the housing position of to-day this question should be kept in mind to supply houses at a rentage, either inclusive or exclusive of rates, which the occupants will be in a position to pay, as otherwise the overcrowding of to-day will exist in spite of the fact that a greater number of houses may be available.

REPORT of the SANITARY INSPECTOR for the Year 1925.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK CARRIED OUT.

Number of Inspections made	...	...	...	546
Number of Re-Inspections made	...	...	...	3396
Number of Notices served and Letters sent	...	...	...	534

Drainage.

Single Private Drains reconstructed or repaired	...	...	...	39
Waste Pipes of Sinks trapped or renewed	...	...	...	36

Water-Closets.

Provided with sufficient supply of Water	...	...	...	7
Basins renewed	...	...	...	3
Cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	2

Houses.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	77
Eaves Gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	73
Fall Pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	34
Yard Pavements repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	59
Floors laid or repaired	...	...	...	...	80
Defective Walls	...	...	...	...	192
Defective Plasterwork	...	...	...	...	146
Defective Ceilings	...	...	...	...	15
Defective Fireplaces	...	...	...	...	19
Defective Fire Ranges	...	...	...	...	31
Defective Ovens	...	...	...	...	20
Dilapidated Set Pots	...	...	...	...	2
Dilapidated Set Pot Firebars	...	...	...	...	14

Handrails fixed or repaired	...	...	...	32
Defective Sashcords and Windows	...	...	...	79
Defective Chimneys	...	...	...	45
Defective Yard Doors	...	...	...	30
Dilapidated Pans	...	...	...	185
Dilapidated Dustbins	...	...	...	4
Dilapidated Privy and Ashpan Doors	...	...	...	75
Dilapidated Closet Doors	...	...	...	27
Defective Closet Roofs	...	...	...	31
Dilapidated Closet Seats	...	...	...	11
Grates required for Gullies	...	...	...	2
Defective Joint between Flushpipe and W.C. Basin	...	...	...	4
Defective Flues	...	...	...	2
Accumulation of Refuse Removed	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous Minor Defects	...	...	...	177
Patients removed to Hospital	...	...	...	40
Rooms Disinfected	...	...	...	51
Pairs of Mattresses Destroyed	...	...	...	195
Sets of Bedding Destroyed	...	...	...	6
Ashpits and Ashpans specially emptied	...	...	...	362

Sanitary Conveniences.

Number of Privies, fixed receptacles	...	...	...	1031
Number of Privies, moveable receptacles	...	...	...	1381
Number of fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	1880

Below is a summary of Privy-Ashpits and Pan-Closets converted since 1921 :—

Year	Privy-Ashpits	Pan-Closets	Total
1921	199	6	205
1922	158	8	166
1923	69	10	79
1924	300	33	333
1925	329	12	341
	<u>1055</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>1124</u>

Collection and Disposal of Nightsoil and other Refuse.

Month 1925	Privy- Ashpits Cleansed	Pan- Closets Cleansed	Dry Ashbins Cleansed	Manure Sold to Farmers	Rubbish Carted to Tips	Total Loads Collected
January	742	5322	4862	140	471½	611½
February	881	5703	5128	83	577½	660½
March	896	5596	5169	52	590½	642½
April	1023	7024	6834	—	763	763
May	970	7029	6287	—	712	712
June	1169	5621	6151	—	675	675
July	739	4209	4122	—	417½	417½
August	1346	7006	6920	—	720	720
September	1465	7005	6750	85	685½	770½
October	861	4206	4147	55	388½	443½
November	1225	7016	7680	89	685	774
December	878	7931	8628	48	821½	869½
Totals	12195	73668	72678	552	7507½	8059½

Offensive Trades.

There are no Offensive Trades carried on within the Borough.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the Borough.

Slaughterhouses.

	In 1920	In Jan. 1925	Dec. 1925
Number Licensed	...	7	...
Number of Inspections	...	—	...
Number of Notices to Limewash	...	—	...

Inspection of Meat, etc.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations came into operation on 1st April, 1925, which makes it compulsory for all Butchers to give three hours' notice of intended slaughter of all animals for human consumption. Suitable printed postcards were supplied to the Butchers, who ably responded in carrying out the Regulations.

540 visits of inspection have been made to the Slaughterhouses.

My attention was called by the various Owners to the under-mentioned foodstuffs which were in an unsound condition and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

Beasts, 8 whole and part carcasses	...	261	stones
Pig, 1 carcase	...	5	„
Beef	...	10	„
Pork	...	3	„
Bacon	...	2	„
Onions	...	72	„
Potatoes	...	872	„

Dairies and Milkshops.

Number of Inspections	...	102
Number on Register	...	49
Number discontinued during the year	...	1
Number Registered during the year	...	6

Cowsheds.

Number of Cowsheds within the Borough	...	11
Number of Registered Cowkeepers	...	9
Number of Cows kept in Town	...	62
Number of Inspections	...	21
Number of Notices to Limewash	...	18

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

There are 28 Workshops on the Register, including :—

Bakehouses	...	8	Dressmaking	...	1
Tailoring	...	2	Cycle Repairing	...	1
Masons	...	1	Garage and Repairs	...	1
Boot and Shoe Repairing	...	8	Joinery	...	1
Saddlery	...	1	Miscellaneous	...	3
Millinery	...	1			

Inspections of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises		Number of Inspections		Number of Written Notices		Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories	...	62	...	4	...	—
Workshops	...	60	...	—	...	—
Workplaces	...	—	...	—	...	—
Totals	...	122	...	4	...	—

Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

	No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
Nuisances under Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation :—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	4	4	—	—
Not separate for Sexes	—	—	—	—
Totals	5	5	—	—

HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	55
(b) With State Assistance under Housing Acts :	
(1) By the Local Authority	34
(2) By other bodies or persons	14

1 Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection—Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	546
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	131
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	534

2 Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	436
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3 Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	23
2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	15
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	2
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	31
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	35
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	

Health Visitor's Report.

Health Office,
Thornaby-on-Tees,
January, 1926.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Maternity and
Child Welfare Committee.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Report for the Year, January 1st to December 31st, 1925.

During the year the total number of visits paid was 4,738.

Of these 737 were Primary Visits.

812 were to Expectant Mothers.

275 were Ineffectual Visits.

728 were Extra Visits.

2,186 were Re-visits.

Of the Re-visits—2,186.

763 were to Children born in 1925

885 „ „ „ 1924

314 „ „ „ 1923

148 „ „ „ 1922

76 „ „ „ 1921

In connection with the Primary Visits at the time of first visit (737) :—

460 were entirely Breast Fed—including four Sets of Twins.

80 were partially Breast Fed—(Mixed).

156 were Artificially Fed—including three Sets of Twins.

14 were Still Born.

12 had died previous to the first visit—including four Sets of Twins.

7 had left the district before the first visit.

8 Cases were born in the Robson Maternity Home, Stockton.

One of these cases was sent in by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

13 Sets of Twins have been born during the year 1925.

In connection with the Ante Natal Visitation 110 necessitous cases were allowed milk daily (one pint), except in the case of twins, when two pints were allowed by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, during the latter months of their pregnancy. Many of these had it continued during the early months of their lactation or nursing period.

The Welfare Centre, Chapel Street

The Welfare Centre has been opened twice weekly, Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 2-0 to 4-0 p.m.

Owing to the very large numbers attending on the one day previously given (Thursdays) it was found advisable and necessary to open the Centre twice weekly as stated above. This has relieved the overcrowding considerably, and given a better opportunity for individual supervision of mothers and babies.

Dr. Young has attended the Centre each week, Tuesdays of one week and Thursdays the following week.

The attendance on these days was very good, thus showing that the mothers appreciated the help and advice given by the Doctor.

At each Welfare Meeting the babies were weighed, and all those attending for the first time examined by the Doctor, who also saw any that were not thriving.

The last Thursday of each month (Extra Day) has been set apart for the weighing and individual supervision of children from 2 to 5 years of age.

Lectures. On alternate Welfare days the babies are weighed up to 3 p.m. Then short lectures are given on subjects connected with the Expectant Mother, the Care of Infants and Children up to School Age, Nursing Mothers, Home Nursing and Emergencies, and also Cookery and Housewifery,

Total number of Lectures given—49. Of these four were given by Dr. Yule, and six were given by Dr. Hammond (School Medical Officers to the North Riding County Council); three were given by Mrs. Salisbury, Domestic Science Teacher; 36 were given by Nurse Ramsay, Health Visitor.

The Lectures were made as interesting as possible by the use of special diagrams and illustrations.

During the year special subjects were taken, such as Rickets, Measles, Flies, Summer Diarrhœa, etc., and pamphlets were distributed dealing with these subjects.

In addition the Mothers—especially the Expectant Mothers—have been able to obtain the necessary garments for the coming new baby, at the Welfare Centre, at a very low cost. Much useful advice has been given in the making of these garments, etc.

This has been a great boon and help to the mothers during these very trying and difficult times.

The number of Mothers who attended the Centre during the year, that is for 85 meetings	...	...	...	4,424
No. of New Mothers	...	...	...	215
No. of Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	227
No. of Children who attended	...	...	...	4,925
2,775 under 1 year; 2,150 over 1 year.				
No. of Children seen by the Doctor	...	...	...	336
275 under 1 year; 61 over 1 year.				
No. of Children weighed	..	..	...	2,367
1,838 under 1 year; 529 over 1 year.				
No. of Children weighed on Extra Day	...	...	...	89

On January 15th, 1925, Miss Whitwell and the Ladies' Committee invited the Mothers of the Centre to an entertainment, followed by tea. A very good musical programme was arranged, and all present spent a most enjoyable afternoon.

As the children left the Centre fruit was given to them by the Mayoress (Mrs. Morland), which she had very kindly provided.

On the platform with Miss Whitwell was Councillor Oxberry, who spoke some very encouraging words to the mothers.

No. of Mothers present	...	...	...	162
No. of Children present	...	...	...	236
105 under 1 year ; 131 over 1 year.				

Again on August 31st, 1925, Miss Whitwell and the Ladies' Committee entertained the Mothers and children on the Thornaby Cricket Field, and the gathering which had been in part postponed from the original date in July, owing to rain, was favoured on this date, August 31st, with a gloriously fine day.

No. of Mothers who attended	...	...	124
No. of Children	„	...	222
122 under 1 year ; 100 over 1 year.			

Tea was provided, and at the close of many varied games, prizes which had been given by the Mayoress (Mrs. Morland) were presented by her.

In closing my Report, I wish once again to take this opportunity to mention the excellent work done at the Welfare Centre by the Ladies' Committee, and the voluntary helpers some of whom attended every week, and others in their turn, which I feel sure must have entailed a certain sacrifice. Many thanks are due to all for their most valuable help and services, as it would be absolutely impossible to carry on this great work of the Welfare Centre without voluntary help.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

MARY J. D. RAMSAY,

Health Visitor.

As will be seen from the Health Visitor's Report a great amount of useful work is done in Maternity and Child Welfare.

Below are some comparative figures for the past five years:—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Average No. of Children who attended Centre weekly	64	66	75	82	104
Total number of Visits paid by Nurse for year	3536	5668	6413	6270	4738

There has been a steady increase in the number of children attending the Centre.

The Record Cards are handed over to the School Medical Authorities when the children reach school age.

Many mothers attending the Centre are in need of artificial food for either themselves or their babies free.

There is no Anti Natal Clinic.

Supply of Food and Milk.

Unfortunately, there is no provision of free artificial food other than cow's milk.

Cow's Milk is provided to Expectant Mothers in the latter months of pregnancy, when their circumstances are considered to be such that they cannot afford to provide it themselves. These cases are all submitted to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, who meet once each month and have the power to grant this milk or not as they think fit.

It would be very helpful if some provision were made for the distribution of Dried Milk Foods free to cases whom I see at the Centre, and whom I think are in need of such foods, but who by reason of circumstances are unable to pay. In many cases cow's

milk is unsuitable, but as the provision of Dried Food is not permissible the only alternative is to use cow's milk. This does not allow of the proper scope for discriminate feeding of babies, who for some reason are not able to have nature's food.

Orthopædic Treatment.

The Children's Wards of the General Hospitals in the district supply the principal means for this class of treatment.

There is also a Hospital at Kirby Moorside. The cost of treatment here, however, is high, and so not available to any great extent, one case having cost the Council some £45.

Voluntary Workers.

There is a Committee of Voluntary Workers who attend to the work of the Centre, other than the medical part. The Committee is represented on the Statutory Committee of Maternity and Child Welfare.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Puerperal Fever. There was only one case of Puerperal Fever. The case was fatal.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases Notified	Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	In Hospital				
1	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

Measles.

Number of cases notified	...	...	271
Number of Deaths	...	...	9

Percentage of Deaths 3'3.

Whooping Cough.

Not Notifiable. There were no deaths.

Epidemic Diarrhœa. There was no epidemic.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

Scarlet Fever.—During the past five years the Borough has not been free from Scarlet Fever for any long period of time. The mortality has been low.

Year	No. of Cases	Case Mortality
1921	17	Nil
1922	15	Nil
1923	50	.5
1924	27	Nil
1925	33	9.09

There were four deaths in five years out of 142 cases notified, i.e. 2.81 per 100. There were no return cases.

Diphtheria. During the year there were six cases of Diphtheria notified and one death.

Arrangements have been made whereby local practitioners can obtain diphtheria antitoxin free of cost for the use of necessitous cases.

Chicken-pox. Owing to smallpox being prevalent chicken-pox was made notifiable in the Borough in 1923 and has remained so until the present.

Smallpox. Seven cases of smallpox occurred during the year. All were sent to the Smallpox Hospital. There were no deaths.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) During the Year, 1925.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	... 7	... 7	... Nil
Scarlet Fever	... 26	... 26	... 3
Diphtheria	... 6	... 5	... 1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	{ 1	... Nil	... Nil
Puerperal Fever	... 3	... Nil	... Nil
Pneumonia	... Nil	... Nil	... 60
Other Diseases generally notifiable :—			
Erysipelas	... 6	... Nil	... Nil
Meningitis	... 1	... 1	... 1
Other Diseases notifiable locally :—			
Measles	... 271	... Nil	... 9

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of New Cases of Tuberculosis notified and the number of deaths from the disease are shown in the following Tables :—

Years	NEW CASES					DEATHS					
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F		
0— 1	...	1	1	...	2	1	...	1	...	2	
1— 5	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	1	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	1
10—15	...	2	3	...	5	2	2	...	...	4
15—20	...	8	4	...	12	2	3	...	...	5
20—25	...	2	2	...	4	6	4	1	1	12	
25—35	...	5	6	...	11	3	2	...	...	5
35—45	...	2	3	...	5	3	3	1	...	7	
45—55	...	4	1	...	5	...	1	...	...	1
55—65	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	
65 and upwards	
TOTALS	...	24	23	3	...	50	18	16	3	1	38

The following Table shows the number of cases of each infectious disease notified, the number removed to Hospital, and the number of deaths, for each of the five years 1921—1925:—

Disease	1921			1922			1923			1924			1925		
	Cases.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	Cases.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	Cases.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	Cases.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.	Cases.	Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	16	8	1	14	5	2	15	...	2	8	...	...	7	5	1
Scarlet Fever	17	7	...	15	6	...	50	...	1	27	3	...	33	26	3
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	3	...	2	2	2	1	..	...	...	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	41	21	...	67	...	...	...	...	...	61	...	...	60
Erysipelas	7	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...
Tuberculosis (Pul.)	42	...	25	32	...	32	25	...	18	25	...	19	48	...	30
„ (Non-Pul.)	...	...	4	4	...	6	...	...	4	1	...	5	4	...	8
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	2	2	...	8	8	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	...	...	25	...	...	106	...	...
Measles	100	...	1	18	...	1	473	...	25	27	...	...	271	...	9

I have the honour to remain,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. E. YOUNG,

Medical Officer of Health.

