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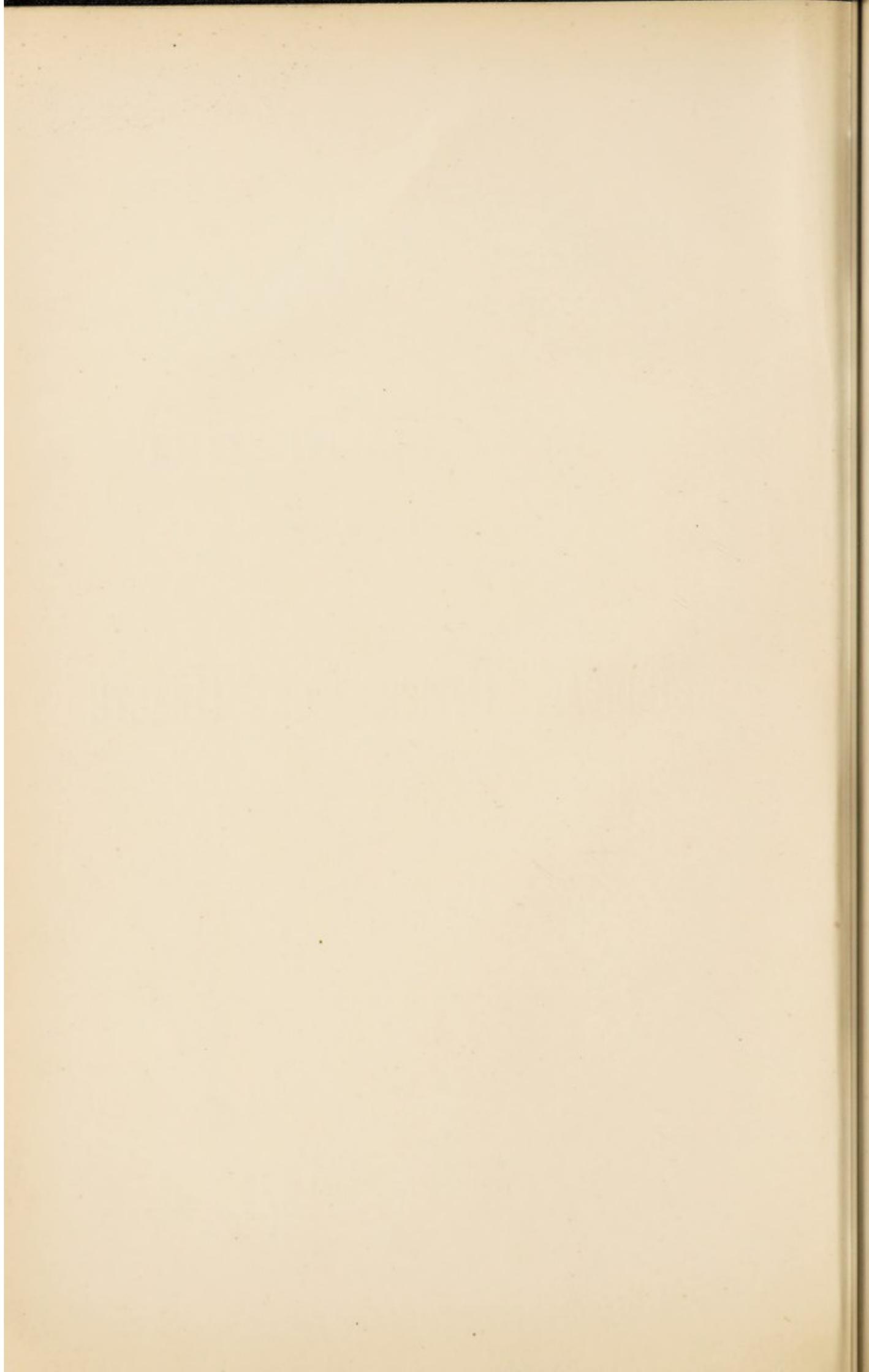
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.**

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1903.



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## URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF WALLASEY.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my Annual Report for 1903.

The return of Inhabited Houses in this District, as supplied to me by Mr. J. J. Burnley, the Accountant, is as follows:—

TABLE I.

	December 31st.		Increase.
	1903.	1902.	
Poulton-cum-Seacombe . . . . .	4,241	4,232	9
Liscard . . . . .	5,996	5,925	71
Wallasey . . . . .	978	938	40
	11,215	11,095	120

This gives an increase of 120 inhabited houses for the year, as compared with 117 in 1902. Allowing 5 for each house, the number as per last census (4·97 being the exact figures), we get 56,075 as the population at the end of 1903. At the beginning of 1903, the population was estimated at a little over 55,000, but thinking this a somewhat low estimate, I took 55,000 as the mean for 1902. Now, as will be presently seen, there was a natural increase of 847 during 1903, so that I take 56,000 as my estimate for the mean population, *i.e.*, at the middle of 1903. I consider this figure to be not very far wrong, especially as I have made no allowance for the floating population,

*i.e.*, those on board vessels and flats in the Docks and portion of the river belonging to this District. Nine new houses in Seacombe seems to be a small increase for Poulton-cum-Seacombe, considering the amount of building in Poulton and the lower end of Wheatland Lane, but Mr. Burnley thinks this is accounted for by the number of older houses now vacant.

No. of  
Deaths.

The Deaths in 1903 amounted to 765 as compared with 753 in the previous year, and 778 in 1901. This gives an increase of 12 in the absolute number of deaths.

Death-rate.

The Death-Rate is therefore 13·66 per thousand. This, however, does not represent the true Death-Rate, because 53 deaths of persons belonging to the Parish have been recorded in Tranmere Workhouse, the Liverpool Hospitals, and other similar institutions, while only 32 of the 765 Deaths were those of visitors. The Deaths, therefore, should really be 786, and the true Death-Rate is 14·03, (got by deducting 32 and adding 53).

In 1902 it was 13·69, itself the lowest rate on record.

Of the Deaths, 405 were Males, and 360 were Females.

The Death-Rate for England and Wales was 15·4 (as compared with 16·3 in 1902).

The Urban Rate in the 76 great towns (among which Wallasey ranks) was 16·3 per 1,000, and in the Rural Districts, 14·8.

Our Death-Rate is therefore 1·4 below the English Rate and 0·8 below the Rural Rate.

Our Average Rate for the last ten years (1893 to 1902) is 15·86, so that this year's rate is 1·83 below the average for the last decade.

The Births numbered 1,612, as against 1,579 for the previous year, giving respective rates of 28·78 and 28·70 per 1,000 of the population.

This shows an increase of 33 births for the last year; of these 841 were Males and 771 Females.

The natural increase in the population—*i.e.*, the excess of Births over Deaths, was thus 847 as against 826 in 1902.

The Birth-Rate for England and Wales was 28·4 per 1,000, so that our Birth-Rate is 0·3 above the English Rate.

The annexed Table gives a summary since 1897 of the numbers of Births and Deaths with the corresponding rates :—

TABLE II.

	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Births .. ..	1,265	1,319	1,476	1,568	1,534	1,579	1,612
Birth-Rate ..	28·75	28·18	30·12	30·15	28·40	28·70	28·78
Deaths .. ..	736	774	788	860	773	753	765
Death-Rate ..	16·72	16·53	16·08	16·53	14·31	13·69	13·66

TABLE III.—Shows the distribution of the Births in the different Townships since 1898.

Births.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Poulton-cum-Seacombe	645	690	723	673	721	706
Liscard .. ..	566	676	721	733	735	763
Wallasey .. ..	108	110	124	128	123	143

TABLE IV.—Shows the number of Deaths in the different Townships since 1899 with the corresponding rates :—

Deaths.	Poulton-cum-Seacombe.	Liscard.	Wallasey.
1899	343 (—17·30)	385 (—14·99)	60 (—17·14)
1900	381 (—18·95)	410 (—14·64)	69 (—17·69)
1901	355 (—16·98)	370 (—13·11)	51 (—12·14)
1902	318 (—15·14)	381 (—13·03)	54 (—11·58)
1903	299 (—14·08)	400 (—13·37)	66 (—13·55)

The number of Deaths for the Townships, as given above, does not correspond with that given in the large printed sheet, or in Table IV. of Local Government Board, because fatal cases in Hospitals are here referred to the Townships from which they came, and the Deaths in Tranmere Workhouse are not included, a separate estimate having been made so as to include them.

It will be seen from Table IV. that Liscard comes out with the lowest death-rate, while Seacombe has the highest death-rate, as is to be expected in the poorest District.

Population of  
the  
Townships.

TABLE V.—Population of the Townships.

	Census. 1891.	Estimated at middle of 1901.	Census. 1901.	Estimated at middle of 1903.
Poulton-cum-Seacombe	14,900	20,900	20,749	21,230
Liscard . . . . .	16,356	28,900	28,661	29,900
Wallasey . . . . .	1,971	4,200	4,169	4,870
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	33,227	54,000	53,579	56,000

Full information is given in the large sheet at the end of Report as to the number of Males and Females, the different ages at Death, the Townships in which the Deaths took place, as well as the Deaths in Public Institutions (Hospitals, &c.), and amongst Non-residents; likewise as to the number of Deaths in each month and each quarter; with a detailed classification of the different causes of Death. Table III. of Local Government Board gives Statistics, apart from Mortality Returns, and is modelled now to suit the information derived from the Infectious Diseases' Notification Act, so as to give the notified cases of each Disease in the different Townships, and the number removed to the Isolation Hospital. Tables I. and III. are not printed in the Report in full, nor Tables II. and IV. of Local Government Board, but the figures are given in the text of my Report.

Mortality in  
the Quarters

TABLE VI.—Showing the Mortality in the different Quarters of the Year.

1899	Quarters :	1st 205	2nd 159	3rd 220	4th 104
1900	„	„ 244	„ 201	„ 222	„ 193
1901	„	„ 194	„ 177	„ 213	„ 189
1902	„	„ 207	„ 167	„ 191	„ 188
1903	„	„ 196	„ 182	„ 192	„ 195

I give next the usual Meteorological Table furnished through the courtesy of Mr. Plummer, of Bidston Observatory :—

TABLE VII.—

*Liverpool Observatory. Bidston. Birkenhead.*  
Latitude 53° 24' 5" North, Longitude 3° 4' 20" West.

1903.	Mean Barometer. Inches.	Mean Temperature. In Degrees F.	Rainfall Amount. Inches.
January .. .. .	29·877	39·9	1·985
February .. .. .	29·986	45·0	1·599
March .. .. .	29·700	45·2	2·992
April .. .. .	29·887	44·3	1·689
May .. .. .	29·873	52·1	2·509
June .. .. .	30·069	55·7	1·915
July .. .. .	29·910	58·8	2·339
August .. .. .	29·788	58·0	3·374
September . . . .	29·979	55·5	4·316
October .. .. .	29·535	50·8	7·372
November .. .. .	30·037	44·4	2·765
December .. .. .	29·710	38·8	1·563
Total ..			<u>34·418</u>

A comparison between the above Table and that for 1902 gives the following results as regards Temperature and Rainfall, the sign + meaning an increase for 1903 and the sign — a decrease for 1903.

	Mean Temperature in Degrees.	Rainfall. Inches.
January . . . . .	—1·4	—0·046
February .. .. .	+10·0	—0·603
March .. .. .	+0·9	+1·486
April .. .. .	—1·5	—0·254
May .. .. .	+1·9	—0·729
June .. .. .	—1·7	—0·048
July .. .. .	+1·2	—0·411
August .. .. .	+0·5	+1·063
September .. .. .	—0·2	+3·451
October . . . . .	+0·6	+4·337
November .. .. .	—0·4	+1·198
December .. .. .	—2·3	—0·592
<u>+7·6</u>		<u>+5·744</u>

Thus for the whole of 1903 there was an increase of Temperature amounting to 7·6 degrees, but in February alone there was a gain of 10°, so that with the exception of this month the general Temperature

was somewhat lower than the average: This was the case in the months of June, July, August, September, but in October the Temperature was a little above the average.

There was an increase in the Rainfall of 5.744 inches for the whole year, October giving the greatest increase, then September, March, November and August. We had not such a heavy Rainfall as they had in Essex and London.

The Deaths were, for Diarrhœa and Enteritis :—

	Diarrhœa.	Enteritis.	
July .. .. .	4	4	= 8
August .. .. .	15	4	= 19
September .. .. .	7	0	= 7
October . . . . .	6	2	= 8
			—
			42

out of a total of 48 from these two diseases for the whole year.

The Deaths from Bronchitis and Pneumonia were 104, against 146 in 1902.

The next table gives the Mortality (from all causes) under one year, the so-called Infant Mortality, which is always looked on as an important index to the healthiness and sanitary conditions of a locality.

It also gives the number of deaths under 5 years of age.

Infant  
Mortality.

TABLE VIII.

Year.	Infants under one year.	Rate of Infant Mortality per cent. of Deaths.	Rate of Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.	Under 5 Years.
1895	162	26.82	146.7	225
1896	168	27.40	143.3	224
1897	213	28.94	168.3	334
1898	221	28.55	167.5	296
1899	241	30.58	163.2	328
1900	208	24.18	132.6	276
1901	219	28.33	142.7	293
1902	172	22.84	108.9	242
1903	183	23.92	113.5	269

Thus there were 11 more deaths of Infants under one year in 1903 than in 1902.

The Infant Mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 Births was 132, compared with our 113·5, so that our rate is 18·5 less than the English Rate. Fatal  
Infantile  
Diseases.

Details of Deaths under 1 year from 1899 to 1903 from those diseases most fatal to Infants are here given.

	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Diarrhoea .. .. .	30	19	43	9	23
Convulsions .. .. .	18	28	21	15	14
Bronchitis .. .. .	19	15	15	12	3
Enteritis .. .. .	38	21	4	7	11
Premature Birth . . .	35	24	28	26	24
Atrophy and Debility ..	28	38	49	35	38
Total .. .. .	<u>168</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>104</u>	<u>118</u>

42 persons belonging to the Wallasey District died in Traunmere Workhouse and 9 in Liverpool Institutions; also 2 in Hospitals elsewhere, making 53 in all, while out of our 765 Deaths, 32 were Visitors. This gives, as before mentioned, 786 Deaths instead of 765 recorded as actually occurring in the District.

Out of the total number of Deaths, 168 were over 65 years, and of these 14 were over 85 years.

11 out of the 765 deaths were not certified either by a registered Medical Practitioner or by a Coroner, which gives a percentage of 1·4 of uncertified deaths, as compared with 1·7 for England and Wales.

69 Inquests were held during the year, as against 56 in 1902, equal to a percentage of 9·0 Deaths certified by a Coroner, compared with 6·9 for England and Wales.

There were 14 Drowning cases in 1903, 8 of these being non-residents.

To different forms of violence (including the Drowning cases), 41 Deaths were referred, being in the proportion of 0·73 per 1,000 of the population, compared with an English rate of 0·58. Our sea, river, and docks frontage largely adds to our Drowning cases, and so increases our rate from Violent Deaths.

I now give an analysis of the large sheet, which supplies a complete statement of particulars of all the deaths during the year. The sub-joined tabular synopsis gives a useful survey of the different classes of Analysis of  
Deaths (see  
Sheet at end  
of Report.)

diseases, with the mortality of each, both in absolute numbers and in rates per 1,000 per annum. It also gives the mortality of the leading forms under each class with the exception of Zymotics, which are given in fuller detail in the succeeding table.

TABLE IX.

Classes.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
ZYMOTICS .. .. .	84—1·71	94—1·82	122—2·25	67—1·21	75—1·33
CONSTITUTIONAL .. .. .	119—2·42	126—2·03	115	127—2·30	123—2·19
Cancer .. .. .	38	36	42	32	33
Phthisis .. .. .	53	47	53	64	52·0
LOCAL DISEASES .. .. .	404—8·2	470—9·03	371—6·87	401—7·29	378—6·75
Apoplexy . . . . .	30	37	35	41	30
Convulsions .. .. .	24	36	24	17	20
Brain Disease, including Meningitis .. .. .	32	15	29	22	28
Heart Disease .. .. .	60	82	71	65	75
Bronchitis .. .. .	59	60	40	60	40
Pneumonia .. .. .	60	73	76	86	64
Liver Disease . . . . .	7	8	9	12	6
Bright's Disease .. .. .	4	6	4	6	7
DEVELOPMENTAL .. .. .	112—2·2	104—2·00	119—2·20	104—1·89	119—2·12
Premature Birth .. .. .	35	24	28	26	24
Old Age .. .. .	36	31	25	34	32
Atrophy and Debility .. .. .	30	41	49	37	41
DROWNING .. .. .	8	15	8	8	14

The first class, viz., Zymotics, is fully detailed in the succeeding Table X.

The next Table shews the deaths from Zymotics, confining the term to those reckoned as such in the Registrar-General's Returns and in all health reports. The full list of Zymotics is given in the large printed sheet, which will be found at the end of this Report.

TABLE X.—Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.

ZYMOTICS—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Total .. .. .	120	82	84	95	122	67	75
Smallpox .. .. .	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Measles . . . . .	34	6	16	26	5	12	3
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	15	11	5	4	5	5	18
Diphtheria and Croup.. .. .	3	5	10	3	12	5	3
Whooping Cough .. .. .	21	19	3	22	15	17	10
Fever (Typhoid) .. .. .	9	9	11	17	31	12	5
Diarrhœa .. .. .	38	32	39	23	54	16	35
Rate per 1,000 of population	2·72	1·75	1·71	1·82	2·25	1·21	1·33
English Rate do.	2·15	2·22	2·21	2·00	2·05	1·64	1·46

Our average Zymotic Rate for the last 10 years (1893 to 1902) was 1·85, as compared with 1·91 in 1902, so that for the past year the rate is 0·52 lower than the average for the last 10 years. The Zymotic Rate in England and Wales was 1·46 per 1,000, as compared with our 1·33 so that ours is 0·13 lower than the English Rate. The Rate, deducting the Zymotic Rate, is 12·70 per 1,000:

For the 76 Great Towns the Zymotic Rate was 1·89 per 1,000 in 1903.

**TABLE XI.—Shows Localities of Fatal Zymotic Cases.**

(M.L.H.—MILL LANE HOSPITAL).  
 (V.C.H.—VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL).  
 (L.R.H.—LEASOWE ROAD SMALLPOX HOSPITAL).  
 (W.C.H.—WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL).

**MEASLES.**

- |     |       |    |                            |
|-----|-------|----|----------------------------|
| (1) | March | .. | Fairview Avenue, Liscard.  |
| (2) | April | .. | Green Lane, Liscard.       |
| (3) | June  | .. | Silverlea Avenue, Liscard. |

**TYPHOID.**

- |     |          |     |  |
|-----|----------|-----|--|
| (1) | April    | ... | V.C.H. from Townfield Lane, Liscard.             |
| (2) | July     | ..  | W.C.H. from The Avenue, Egerton Street, Liscard. |
| (3) | November |     | M.L.H. from Radstock Road, Wallasey.             |
| (4) | "        |     | M.L.H. from St. Paul's Road, Seacombe.           |
| (5) | "        |     | M.L.H. from Oakdale Road, Seacombe.              |

**DIPHTHERIA.**

- |     |        |    |  |
|-----|--------|----|--|
| (1) | May    | .. | M.L.H. from Portia Seacombe.           |
| (2) | August | .. | M.L.H. from Cherrybank Road, Seacombe. |
| (3) | "      | .. | M.L.H. from Dalton Road, Liscard.      |

**WHOOPIING COUGH.**

- |      |          |    |   |
|------|----------|----|---|
| (1)  | February | .  | School Cottage, Poulton.<br>Limekiln Lane, Poulton. |
| (2)  | March    | .. | Ashville Road, Seacombe.                            |
| (3)  | "        | .. | Rappart Road, Seacombe.                             |
| (4)  | April    | .. | Byerley Street, Seacombe.                           |
| (5)  | May      | .. | Briardale Road, Seacombe.                           |
| (6)  | July     | .. | Manor Road, Liscard.                                |
| (7)  | "        | .. | Cross Street, Seacombe.                             |
| (8)  | November |    | Devon Avenue, Liscard.                              |
| (9)  | December |    | Wright Street, Liscard.                             |
| (10) | "        | .  | Fairview Avenue, Liscard.                           |

## SCARLET FEVER.

- |      |          |                                       |
|------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| (1)  | January  | M.L.H. from Rake Lane, Liscard.       |
| (2)  | "        | M.L.H. from The Summit, Liscard.      |
| (3)  | "        | Merton Road, Liscard.                 |
| (4)  | February | M.L.H. from Wallasey Road, Liscard.   |
| (5)  | March    | M.L.H. from Belle Vue Road, Seacombe. |
| (6)  | "        | M.L.H. from Egerton Street, Liscard.  |
| (7)  | April    | M.L.H. from Belle Vue Road, Seacombe. |
| (8)  | May      | Brighton Street, Seacombe.            |
| (9)  | "        | M.L.H. from Geneva Road, Seacombe.    |
| (10) | June     | Mount Pleasant Road, Liscard.         |
| (11) | "        | Mount Pleasant Road, Liscard.         |
| (12) | "        | M.L.H. from Wallace Road, Wallasey.   |
| (13) | July     | Granville Terrace, Wallasey.          |
| (14) | October  | M.L.H. from Charlotte Road, Liscard.  |
| (15) | November | Kimberley Road, Liscard.              |
| (16) | December | Seabank Road, Liscard.                |
| (17) | "        | M.L.H. from Byerley Street, Seacombe. |

## DIARRHŒA.—

- |      |           |                                      |
|------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| (1)  | February  | Littledale Road, Seacombe.           |
| (2)  | July      | Jubilee Grove, Seacombe.             |
| (3)  | "         | Ashville Road, Seacombe.             |
| (4)  | "         | Palermo Street, Seacombe.            |
| (5)  | "         | Beaconsfield Road, Seacombe.         |
| (6)  | August    | Beaconsfield Road, Seacombe.         |
| (7)  | "         | Richmond Street, Liscard (Visitor).  |
| (8)  | "         | Shakespeare Road, Seacombe.          |
| (9)  | "         | Greenfield Street, Liscard.          |
| (10) | "         | Townfield Lane, Liscard.             |
| (11) | "         | Leander Road, Wallasey.              |
| (12) | "         | Rossett Place, Liscard.              |
| (13) | "         | Egerton Street, Liscard.             |
| (14) | "         | Moseley Avenue, Liscard.             |
| (15) | "         | Liscard Road, Liscard.               |
| (16) | "         | Servia Street, Seacombe.             |
| (17) | "         | Grange Avenue, Liscard.              |
| (18) | "         | Sandroek Road, Liscard.              |
| (19) | "         | Eleanor Street, Liscard.             |
| (20) | "         | Granville Terrace, Wallasey.         |
| (21) | September | New Street, Seacombe.                |
| (22) | "         | Sutton Road, Liscard.                |
| (23) | "         | Sutton Road, Liscard.                |
| (24) | "         | Sandridge Road, Liscard.             |
| (25) | "         | Wheatland Lane, Seacombe.            |
| (26) | "         | Sutton Road, Liscard.                |
| (27) | "         | Sandridge Road, Liscard.             |
| (28) | October   | Burnaby Street, Liscard.             |
| (29) | "         | Byron Road, Seacombe.                |
| (30) | "         | Mount Pleasant Road, Liscard.        |
| (31) | "         | Rankin Street, Poulton-cum-Seacombe. |
| (32) | "         | Field Street, Liscard.               |
| (33) | "         | Milton Road, Seacombe.               |
| (34) | December  | Margaret Street, Seacombe.           |
| (35) | May       | Seabank Road, Liscard.               |

## SMALLPOX.—

- |     |       |  |
|-----|-------|--|
| (1) | March | Smallpox Hospital, Leasowe Road.<br>(From St. Mary's Street, Liscard.) |
|-----|-------|--|

TABLE XII.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified in the Urban District of Wallasey during the Year ending December 31st, 1903.

Townships.	Years.	Small-pox.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlatina.	Typhus.	Typhoid.	Puerperal.	Total.
Poulton-cum-Seacombe	Under 5	—	5	—	—	54	—	—	—	59
	Over 5	15	14	—	22	135	—	21	1	208
Egremont	Under 5	—	—	—	—	10	—	1	—	11
	Over 5	3	2	—	3	43	—	9	—	60
Liscard.	Liscard .	Under 5	—	5	1	1	35	—	—	42
		Over 5	5	5	—	4	94	—	7	115
Liscard.	New Brighton	Under 5	—	—	—	1	12	—	—	13
		Over 5	3	5	1	8	22	—	4	44
Wallasey	Under 5	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	15
	Over 5	—	2	—	2	20	—	5	—	29
Totals	Under 5	—	10	1	2	126	—	1	—	140
	Over 5	26	28	1	39	314	—	46	2	456

NOTE.—For the purposes of more defined Localisation:—Liscard Township is above divided into Egremont (portion of Liscard between Seacombe and Green Lane); Liscard proper including Liscard Village, Magazines, and on to Magazine Lane and Mount Pleasant; and New Brighton, including rest of Liscard Township.

### SMALLPOX.

Smallpox, it will be remembered, prevailed rather extensively in 1902, but the last case for that year occurred in November, and was discharged from Hospital before Christmas, so that 1903 opened without any cases of this serious disease.

It was still present, however, in Liverpool, where numerous fresh cases were occurring weekly, so that it was quite clear we might at any time have cases occurring among residents whose business occupations took them to Liverpool all day, and these include a very large part of our population.

The first of such cases occurred on February 7th. A gentleman employed in Liverpool consulted his doctor on his way home in the evening, on account of a rash which had troubled him for some days. He had gone to Seacombe Ferry by tram in the morning, crossed on

the boat, and had been about town a good deal that day. He returned by boat and tram again, and his doctor asked me to see him in the evening. There was no doubt that this was a case of highly modified Smallpox, but the patient had gone about for several days in a condition to convey infection to those coming in contact with him who were not efficiently protected against the disease. We are sometimes quite unable to trace where a patient contracted Smallpox, but such a case as this probably explains why we never know where infection was given and from whom, for both in trams and boats, as well as in business, many persons must have been in close contact and exposed to risk of infection. The history of this case also shows how necessary it is for all to be protected by efficient vaccination, for it is very common to hear people say, "Oh! I don't need vaccination, for I never come in contact with people likely to have Smallpox."

Three other cases occurred in February, one in Liscard and two in Seacombe, but no contact could be proved with the first case. Seven cases followed in March, and one of these, a young man, 20 years old, had a very severe type of disease of the hæmorrhagic form, and died within three days. He had only one poor and faint mark of previous vaccination on the left arm. This was the only fatal case.

No cases occurred in April, but in May there were nine, in June two, in July one, in August one, and finally in December, two. As Smallpox had disappeared from Liverpool by December, the last two cases were probably infected from Warrington, where numerous cases were then occurring, but actual contact could not be proved. The first of these two cases was employed in a large place of public entertainment, frequented by many people from Warrington, so it was easy to have infection conveyed in this way. The second case lived quite close to the first, so that contact may possibly have taken place in an early stage of the first case. Of the nine cases in May, four belonged to one family in Seacombe, and were infected by a member of the family living in Rock Ferry, who was under observation for some time before her return to Seacombe. She had been exposed to the infection of Smallpox, and was sent into a Hospital for a few days and thence dismissed to her home in Seacombe.

All the cases, except one, were treated in Leasowe Road Smallpox Hospital, and the accommodation there was quite equal to the demands made on it during the past year.

Out of the 26 cases notified, the one death gives a mortality of 0·01 per 1,000, and 3·8 per cent. of notified cases.

In 1902, out of 40 notified cases, none died.

The influence of primary vaccination in modifying and cutting short the attack was very clear in most of the cases, the eruption often drying up at a very early stage, even when the early symptoms were severe. One patient, 35 years of age, had not been vaccinated, till a case occurred in Liverpool at his place of business. All were advised to be vaccinated in consequence of this, and he got his own doctor on this side to vaccinate him. He had evidently been infected some days before vaccination, but meanwhile the vaccination had time to develop, and though it was performed too late to protect him entirely, he had an extremely mild attack. Had he neglected the advice to be vaccinated, he would have probably had a very severe attack, as he would have been without any protection. One of the severest cases was that of a seaman from a steamer in the Great Float. He had only two very indistinct marks on the left arm, and had a severe attack of confluent smallpox.

As the disease has been practically stamped out in Liverpool, only stray cases occurring now and then, we may hope to escape altogether during 1904, or with only stray cases.

The English Rate was 0·02, and for the 76 Great Towns, 0·03 (compared with our rate of 0·01 per 1,000).

The following Table will show the number of cases of Smallpox occurring in our District from 1885 to 1903. Smallpox  
Cases since  
1885.

1885.—2 cases notified—none fatal.	
1886.—3 cases notified—2 fatal.	
1887	} No cases notified.
to	
1892	
1893.—1 case notified—not fatal.	
1894.—1 case notified—not fatal.	
1895.—5 cases notified—none fatal.	
1896	} No cases notified.
to	
1900	
1901.—1 case notified—not fatal.	
1902.—40 cases notified—none fatal.	
1903.—26 cases notified —1 fatal.	

**Measles.** Only three fatal cases of Measles occurred in 1903, as against twelve in 1902. This gives the low mortality of 0·05 per 1,000, compared with an English mortality of 0·27, while for the 76 Great Towns the rate was 0·36. The three fatal cases were all in Liscard (See Table XI.)

No schools had to be closed on account of Measles.

**Scarlet Fever.** Scarlatina, which was increasing in prevalence during the closing months of 1902, continued to spread, affecting all parts of the District, and altogether 439 cases were notified, as against 293 in 1902. This is by far the largest number ever notified in one year. Eighteen cases died, giving a mortality of 0·32 per 1,000, as compared with an English Rate of 0·12 and 0·14 for the 76 Great Towns.

The mortality per cent. of notified cases is 4·1 compared with 1·7 in 1902.

309 cases were treated in Mill Lane Hospital compared with 199 in 1902 and 68 in 1901. Further remarks on this large number treated in Hospital will be found under the paragraph about Mill Lane Hospital.

Although there were 18 fatal cases, yet many attacks were so mild that medical men were often in doubt whether to pronounce the disease Scarlatina or not, and further whether to send such cases into Hospital or let them remain at home. This question was often a serious one. In several instances medical men found three or four children in one family all affected with Scarlatina, and on further enquiry, discovered that another child was peeling and had previously had an attack of such a mild nature that the parents had overlooked it. So, too, in one such case, a child was found to be peeling, who had been in attendance for several weeks at one of the Board Schools, while in an infectious state.

With such conditions, it was no wonder that the Riverside and Poulton Road Board Schools were found to be centres for spreading the disease, and there was little doubt it was due to overlooked cases. Thus, at the very end of the year, when these Schools broke up before

Christmas, there was a marked decline in the number of Scarlatina cases. There was, however, at no time such a number absent from any of the Schools on account of Scarlatina as to make it justifiable to close one or more for this cause. The Schools were all notified as speedily as possible when any case was notified in a household sending one or more children to School, and such children were kept away till it was safe for them to return.

Diphtheria caused only three deaths during 1903, two in Poulton and one in Liscard. No fatal cases of Membranous Croup occurred, and only two cases of the latter disease were notified, while 38 cases of Diphtheria were notified.

Diphtheria  
and  
Membranous  
Croup.

The three deaths give a mortality of 0·05 per 1,000, and a percentage of 7·3 deaths among the notified cases.

The English Rate was 0·18, and for the 76 Great Towns, 0·20.

27 cases were admitted into Mill Lane Hospital, with no deaths, a very gratifying result. The use of Diphtheria Antitoxin Serum is so common in Hospital practice now, and is resorted to so early, even in cases of doubtful sore throat, that the results are much more favourable than before this treatment was discovered.

Whooping Cough caused ten deaths, six of these being in Poulton-cum-Seacombe (See Table XI). It did not prevail extensively during 1903, till December, when it assumed an epidemic form in all parts of the District, and led to the closing of the Rake Lane School on the 16th of December, as over 25 per cent. were absent owing to this cause, and as the holidays were so near, it was judged advisable to close at once and include the holidays in the three weeks for which they were closed.

Whooping  
Cough.

These ten deaths give a mortality of 0·21 per 1,000, compared with an English Rate of 0·27, and 0·33 for the 76 Great Towns.

It is very hard to convince parents that children suffering from Whooping Cough ought to be kept in doors during cold or wet weather, till they are convalescent. The popular fallacy that they ought to be

taken out, especially to the riverside or seashore, is still firmly impressed on the mothers by kind and officious friends, and the result in too many cases is Bronchitis or Pneumonia that carries the child off. Indeed Whooping Cough of itself is rarely fatal, but these complications readily set in on exposure to cold and are very fatal.

#### Diarrhœa.

Diarrhœa caused 35 deaths in 1903, as against 15 in 1902. This term now includes all deaths registered under Diarrhœa, Zymotic Diarrhœa, Zymotic Enteritis and Dysentery.

A great many of these deaths were for some years classed under the name Enteritis and were thus put under Diseases of the Digestive System and did not appear as Zymotic Deaths. During the last year 13 deaths were ascribed to Enteritis and 11 of these were under one year of age—most of which should probably have come under Zymotic Enteritis or Zymotic Diarrhœa, but medical men still often certify deaths as Enteritis, in spite of the direction issued by the Registrar-General.

These 35 deaths give a mortality of 0·62 per 1,000, compared with an English Rate of 0·50, and 0·71 for the 76 Great Towns.

In 1902, our Rate was 0·29 per 1,000 (with only 15 Deaths).

It was rather surprising that with the abundant rainfall of July August, September, and October, combined with comparatively low Temperatures, so many deaths occurred owing to this cause.

28 of the 35 were under one year of age.

Four of the deaths occurred in the Oakdale District and four in the Wheatland Lane District, and of the Enteritis Deaths, one occurred in the Oakdale District, and five in the Wheatland Lane District, making 14 in all from Diarrhœa and Enteritis in these two Districts, as compared with only four in 1902.

Miss Birrell, who was appointed in 1903 as our first Female Sanitary Inspector, made visits to such houses as I deemed required inspection where deaths from Zymotic Diarrhœa took place, and I here add her report on these cases. It will be seen that a very large proportion consisted of bottle-fed babies.

### Enquiry visits paid to houses at which fatal cases of Diarrhœa or Zymotic Enteritis had occurred.

“ I beg to report that 31 deaths due to above causes were investigated during the autumn.

“ Of these, 25 were under one year of age, of whom 23 were entirely bottle-fed, the other two being partly bottle and partly breast-fed.

“ The remaining six were between the ages of one and two years; four of these were entirely bottle-fed, and two partly bottle and partly breast-fed.

Total deaths investigated—31.

Under 1 year of age.	Between 1-2 years.	Between 2-5 years.
25	6	0

Age.	METHOD OF FEEDING AT TIME OF DEATH.		
	Bottle-fed.	Partly bottle—Partly breast.	Breast-fed.
Under 1 year . . . .	23	2	0
Between 1-2 years	4	2	0

TABLE XIII.

Typhoid Notifications in 1903.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Seacombe . . . .	2	1	—	2	2	1	3	3	2	2	3	—	21
Liscard. { Egremont . . . .	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	4	1	—	—	10
{ Liscard (Proper)	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	7
{ New Brighton	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
Wallasey . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	5
Totals . . . .	4	2	—	4	4	2	8	6	6	6	5	—	47

Scarlatina Notifications in 1903.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Seacombe . . . .	24	21	21	14	21	10	6	8	22	11	8	23	189
Liscard. { Egremont . . . .	11	3	5	2	6	2	2	5	6	2	6	3	53
{ Liscard (Proper)	14	14	9	7	10	7	5	10	17	14	12	10	129
{ New Brighton .	3	2	1	0	1	6	3	3	1	3	6	5	34
Wallasey . . . .	8	1	—	1	—	2	7	1	4	3	5	3	35
Totals . . . .	60	41	36	24	38	27	23	27	50	33	37	44	440

Typhoid  
Fever.

Typhoid Fever caused five deaths in 1903, compared with twelve in 1902 and 31 in 1901. The mortality was therefore only 0·08 per 1,000, compared with an English Fever Rate of 0·10 and 0·12 in the 76 Great Towns. These two rates are for continued Fever, which includes Typhus and Simple Continued Fever.

This rate for 1903 is by far the lowest for Typhoid since attention was drawn to the prevalence of this fever in our District, and is now lower than the English rate. Though it would be premature to conclude the rate will keep very low, the amount of work that has been accomplished in re-constructing sewers, especially in areas where Typhoid prevailed most, in re-laying defective house drains, and in sewer and drain flushing as well as in watching carefully the milk supply, has, I feel confident, now produced tangible results in the reduction of this preventible disease.

47 cases were notified; and Table XIV. (A & B) shows that this is the smallest number notified since 1890, when the population was only a little over 30,000. These 47 cases give a mortality of 8·5 per cent., as against 18·7 in the preceding year.

It must be borne in mind that the abundant rainfall with low temperatures conduced to this favourable result.

But in the year 1891 there was a very abundant rainfall during the months when Typhoid is most prevalent, and yet then Typhoid was exceptionally severe, for with defective sewers and drains, the germs seemed simply to spread more freely in the soil, so that we are now distinctly reaping the reward of careful sewer reconstruction.

**TABLE XIV.—Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis.**

	Total. 1897.	Total. 1898.	Total. 1899.	Total. 1900.	Total. 1901.	Total. 1902.	Total. 1903.
Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis in Oakdale and Wheat- land Lane Districts.	74	85	82	49	54	24	48
	15	29	13	16	15	4	14

TABLE A.

## TYPHOID FEVER.

	Total Deaths.	Notifications.	Total Notifications in	
			Oakdale and Whealand Lane District.	Wheatland Lane District.
1895	8	67	9	11
1896	10	112	6	12
1897	9	93	3	7
1898	9	87	6	5
1899	11	132	3	7
1900	17	163	9	24
1901	31	257	5	67
1902	12	64	1	21
1903	5	47	4	7

Although six notifications are recorded for the Oakdale District, it will be noticed that there is a marked diminution of notifications in the Wheatland Lane area, which I feel sure is due to the reconstruction of the sewers there.

The following Table shows in a striking form the deaths from Typhoid for the last 15 years, with corresponding rates per 1,000 of Population.

TABLE B.

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Notified Cases.
1889	12	0·36	—
1890	9	0·26	42
1891	20	0·59	77
1892	20	0·57	62
1893	23	0·64	132
1894	13	0·35	89
1895	8	0·20	67
1896	10	0·24	112
1897	9	0·20	93
1898	9	0·19	87
1899	11	0·23	132
1900	17	0·32	163
1901	31	0·57	257
1902	12	0·21	64
1903	5	0·08	47

31 cases were admitted to Mill Lane Hospital and North Meade, with three deaths. In 1902, 46 cases were in Mill Lane Hospital (or North Meade), and in 1901, 154 cases.

For monthly notifications of Typhoid and Scarlatina, see Table XIII.

21 cases were notified in Poulton-cum-Seacombe, 10 in Egremont, 7 in Liscard proper, 4 in New Brighton and 5 in Wallasey.

From the above comments on Zymotic Diseases, it appears that it is only in the cases of Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough that our Rate exceeds the English Rate, and in the case of the latter, our Rate is lower than the Whooping Cough Rate for the 76 Great Towns among which we rank. The Scarlet Fever epidemic was the most severe in point of numbers we have ever had, but it is gratifying to know that now, in the beginning of 1904, it is rapidly declining.

The great fall in the Typhoid Death-Rate is perhaps the most pleasing feature of all.

**Influenza.**

Influenza caused 13 deaths in 1903, as against 8 in 1892 and 3 in 1901. Three were in January, three in February, four in March, one in April and two in October.

I add now an account of the work done by the Works Department in connection with sewers, furnished to me by Mr. Travers, and also an account of the work done in connection with house drains by the Public Health Department. In all cases of Typhoid, where the examination leaves the condition of the drains in doubt, we uncover such drains, and if they are found defective, we get the whole re-laid properly.

### **Mr. Travers' Report on Sewers for 1903.**

“ During the year 1903 considerable sewerage improvements  
“ have been carried out, the greater part being of the nature of  
“ reconstructions of defective sewers.

“ The following Outfall Sewer reconstructions and extensions  
“ referred to in the last report have during the past year been  
“ completed.

“ (1) Outfall Sewer North of Egremont Ferry.

“ (2) Do. at Maddock Road.

“ (3) Do. at Magazine Lane.

“ These Outfall Sewers consist of Cast Iron Pipes of various  
“ diameters and now discharge at extreme low water level.

“ The main brick sewer along King Street and Brighton Street has been further relieved of storm water by the construction of large overflows at Tobin Street and Sandon Road, and this provision in conjunction with the relief sewers previously constructed has had a marked effect in preventing basement flooding during excessive rainfall. As a further result, it will now be possible to take the reparation of the main brick sewer in hand.

“ The brickwork of this Sewer is very defective and the invert irregular. It is intended to repair and re-point the brickwork and to fit specially moulded invert blocks.

“ To enable this to be more conveniently and thoroughly done, electrical switch boxes have been placed in a number of the manholes at distances of about 300 yards apart. The sewer can thus be electrically lighted where required from time to time by wiring in 50 feet lengths, resulting in better and more economical work than would be possible with candles or oil lamps.

“ The whole of the very defective sewers in Grosvenor Street, Westminster Road, Wilton Street, Eaton Street and Belgrave Street, have been removed, and new sewers laid in by sanction of the Local Government Board.

“ Defective sewers in the following streets and passages have also been repaired and reconstructed as found necessary :—

“ Meadow Street.

“ Balls Avenue.

“ South Seacombe Terrace.

“ Green Lane, East of Stringhey Road.

“ Stringhey Road.

“ Wilton Terrace, Stringhey Road.

“ Green Lane, West of Stringhey Road.

“ Brook Street and adjacent passages.

“ Walmsley Street and adjacent passages.

- “ Matthew Street (East End).
- “ Townfield Lane.
- “ The Avenue, Egerton Street, and adjacent passages.
- “ Mason Street.
- “ Egerton Street, East of Mason Street.
- “ Passages between Manor Road and Lancaster Avenue.
- “ Passage at rear of West side of Gresford Place.
- “ Passage at rear of West side of Parry Street.

“ A number of additional manholes and flushing chambers  
 “ have been constructed on various sewers as well as ventilating  
 “ shafts erected, thus affording better control and ventilation  
 “ where necessary. A large quantity of gulley work and general  
 “ repair work has also been carried out and in addition to the  
 “ usual flushing by tanks and hose, the brick walls of the whole  
 “ of the manholes and channels in the District have been  
 “ thoroughly washed and cleaned down and disinfected.”

### **Public Health Department.—Work on Drains.**

In connection with the notification of Typhoid Fever during the past year, reconstruction of the drainage systems (partial or entire) has taken place at the following houses :—

- 9, Leasowe Road, Wallasey.
- 9, The Avenue, New Brighton.
- 6, Cardigan Road, New Brighton.
- 28, Sandrock Road, New Brighton.
- 12, Dudley Road, New Brighton.
- 45, Wright Street, Egremont.
- 8, Walmsley Street, Egremont.
- 11, Stringhey Road, Egremont.
- 13, Rice Hey Road, Egremont.
- 1, Back King Street, Egremont.
- 23, Townfield Lane, Liscard.
- 16, Oakdale Road, Seacombe.

Drainage reconstruction (partial or entire) has also taken place at the following houses where Diphtheria has been notified :—

23, Virginia Road, New Brighton.

6, Zig Zag Road, Liscard.

6 & 8, Holland Road, Liscard.

The flushing of house drains is carried out by three gangs of men, who cover the whole district twice a year, as far as possible, and special and more frequent visits are paid to all schools.

Also a special flushing gang regularly visits houses where Infectious Disease exists, using disinfectants for the drains freely.

The next Table gives details as to the cases admitted to Mill Lane Hospital :—

Year	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Admission	145	171	163	191	175	246	294	397

TABLE XV.—**Cases of Infectious Disease treated in Mill Lane Hospital during 1903.**

TOWNSHIPS.		Small-pox.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Erysipelas.	Scarlatina.	Typhoid.	Typhus.	Puerperal.
Poulton-cum- Seacombe	{ Under 5.	0	6	0	0	38	0		
	{ Over 5.	14	1	—	0	111	17		
Liscard { Egremont ..	{ Under 5.	0	0	—	0	10	0		
	{ Over 5.	4	0	—	1	27	8		
Liscard ..	{ Under 5.	0	0	—	0	20	0		
	{ Over 5.	4	2	—	1	54	4		
New Brighton	{ Under 5.	0	0	—	0	3	0		
	{ Over 5.	3	3	—	1	11	0		
Wallasey .. ..	{ Under 5.	0	0	—	—	12	0		
	{ Over 5.	0	5	—	—	23	2	2 cases uncertain.	
Totals .. ..	{ Under 5.	0	6	—	0	83	0		
	{ Over 5.	25	21	—	3	226	31	397 admitted during year.	

NOTE.—For the purpose of more defined Localisation :—Liscard Township is above divided into Egremont (portion of Liscard between Seacombe and Green Lane). Liscard proper, including Liscard Village, Magazines, and on to Magazine Lane and Mount Pleasant, and New Brighton, including rest of Liscard Township.

\*1 Smallpox case fatal ; 11 Scarlatina cases fatal ; 3 Typhoid cases fatal.

In my last Report I recorded the great pressure on the space provided at Mill Lane Hospital, owing to the unusual prevalence of Scarlatina at the end of 1902, and I also mentioned in that report (in anticipation of the 1903 report) that a new Pavilion was opened in January 13th of 1903, and gave a description not only of the new Fever Pavilion, but also of the additions to the Administrative Block and to the Laundry and Ambulance Sheds, together with a Discharging Block and Porter's Lodge.

The new Pavilion, with accommodation for 24 patients, and with a separate convalescent room for male and female patients, was at once filled with Scarlatina cases and continued full during the whole year. It was designed with such ample space that extra cots could be introduced, and we had often as many as 33 and even 36 patients in this block, but owing to the great air-space and excellent ventilation, together with the fact that nearly all the patients were young children, this number was accommodated with little trouble.

No. 2 Pavilion, designed for 12 beds, with Male and Female Convalescent Room, was also filled with Scarlatina patients, but was often distinctly overcrowded, both convalescent rooms having to be used as wards for treatment of patients.

We had as many as 26 patients in No. 2, although in the first half of the year the Typhoid patients were treated at North Meade House. It was not till the end of June that these Typhoid patients were removed to No. 1 Pavilion, and this was several times during the year found to be very inconvenient, for Diphtheria patients are treated in this block, though in separate wards. Occasionally, also, one or two Erysipelas patients have to be treated, and now and then, in exceptional circumstances, a patient suffering from Measles has to be admitted.

It was only because the number of Typhoid patients was so exceptionally small that we succeeded in keeping North Meade House empty, and we cannot count on having in the future such a small number of Typhoid cases as we have had during 1903.

We ought also to have two or three beds available for observation of doubtful cases, such as not seldom are sent in to an Infectious Hospital before the nature of the case is quite clear. There was, for a considerable time, overcrowding of No. I Block, as well as of II. and III., 11 patients being often treated at one time

In view of all these considerations, when it was determined to use the site of North Meade House for Public Offices, I found it necessary to recommend to the Health Committee the construction of a new Pavilion designed for 20 beds, so as to be able to cope with the number of cases we may have to accommodate. This recommendation was most carefully considered in Committee and most fully discussed at more than one meeting. In spite of an anxious desire to economise as far as possible, it was felt that the numbers treated showed clearly that this extra pavilion would be required, as soon as the accommodation hitherto available at North Meade was no longer to be counted on, and accordingly the Committee passed a resolution to this effect, which was confirmed unanimously by the Council. The provision of such a new pavilion will leave the original No. I. Block free for Diphtheria cases and for Erysipelas, and will also give room for an Observation Ward.

It is already felt that the acquisition of a large extent of extra ground for future Hospital extension has been amply justified as a piece of wise foresight by the Health Committee.

397 patients were admitted during 1903, with 14 deaths, viz., 11 Scarlatina and 3 Typhoid. One death took place in the Small-pox Hospital in Leasowe Road.

Of the Scarlatina fatal cases, three belonged to Seacombe, two to Poulton, three to Liscard, one to Egremont, one to New Brighton, and one to Wallasey. Of the three fatal Typhoid cases, one came from Seacombe, one from Poulton, and one from Wallasey, the latter being an imported case.

The Smallpox Hospital in Leasowe Road proved again a great boon to the community at large, and everything there worked very smoothly.

Nurse Hardy was in charge for the greater part of the time, and had, as required, extra nursing assistance.

The Assistant-Matron, Miss Gittins, got an appointment at the end of the year as Superintendent of the Infectious Hospital at Malvern, and owing to the great falling off in infectious cases since the beginning of 1904, it has not been found necessary as yet to fill her place.

When the Administrative Block was enlarged in 1902-1903, room was provided for a Dispensary, and we now keep and dispense our own drugs there, instead of sending out to a chemist for these.

The new Discharging Block and the enlarged Laundry have been found most useful and helpful in the work of the Hospital.

Miss Malcolm was able to supply an efficient staff of nurses, even when the number of Scarlatina cases was at its height, and though also for part of the year North Meade House and the Smallpox Hospital had to be supplied from the Central Staff.

Collection of  
Night-soil.

The collection of night-soil by the Council's own staff has worked smoothly and well, and in consequence the old and frequent complaints about full ashpits have practically ceased.

It is very desirable that householders should understand they can now do away with ashpits altogether by substituting covered dustbins, which are emptied once a week by the night-soil staff.

This method does away with the old and bad method of wheeling out the contents of ashpits (often foul and decomposing) to be emptied on the road and left till the cart comes round to remove them. It also does away with the noise and disturbance of the barrows and shovelling—formerly a great annoyance to householders at night. This system ought to be adopted much more generally than at present is the case.

These bins cost only a few shillings, and are simply carried out by the men and emptied into the night-soil cart.

For Schools and Public Institutions, as well as for private houses, they are a great improvement on the old system.

A perusal of the report of Mr. Bascombe, Chief Sanitary Inspector, now included, will show the very large amount of House Inspection carried on, the number and nature of Nuisances discovered and remedied, with many other details as to Dairies, Cow-sheds, Slaughter-houses, Bakehouses, &c.

The provisions set forth in the Bye-laws for Sub-let houses on the Register are also carried out by weekly inspections on the part of the Inspectors, and all this has a most salutary effect on the sanitary conditions of such houses.

Inspection under the Factories and Workshops' Act is regularly carried on, by which we now have supervision as to sanitary conditions, ventilation, the number of persons allowed to work in each room, &c.

I add a summary of the work done in connection with the various Factory and Workshop Acts, which will show the Inspectors have not neglected this department of Sanitary Work.

### **Factory and Workshops' Act.**

There are at present on the register 184 Workshops. During the year there have been added 18 new Workshops, and 7 have been discontinued.

279 visits of inspection have been made, and it has been found necessary to issue preliminary notices in respect of the following matters :—

- For structural defects, 8 notices.
- „ additional ventilation, 5 notices.
- „ cleansing of walls and ceilings, 10 notices.

No case of overcrowding has been found to exist.

In four instances, owing to the introduction of motive power, the premises come under the direct supervision of the Government Inspector, and intimations of such change in the nature of the workshops have been duly forwarded.

Eight intimations have been received during the year from other Authorities with respect to persons residing in this District who are engaged as outworkers. The sanitary arrangements of the premises have been carefully enquired into, and where defective conditions have been found to exist, the usual notices have been issued. In the majority of cases dealt with in this way, it was found that the persons referred to merely brought work to their own home for execution.

In one case it was found necessary to issue notice for the stripping and cleaning of the whole of the premises.

60 of the Workshops on the register, in which female labour is employed, have been visited by the Female Sanitary Inspector. These Workshops comprise 77 Workrooms, 73 of which were found in a clean condition at the time of inspection. The remaining four were discovered to be somewhat dirty, for which notices to clean were subsequently issued. No case of female overcrowding was discovered.

Where the requisite notices have not been exhibited in the work rooms, intimations have been sent to His Majesty's Inspector in accordance with the requirements of the Factory Act. Intimations have also been received from that official with regard to insufficient accommodation in Factories within this District.

### **Report of the Female Sanitary Inspector.**

“The work of the Female Inspector has mainly consisted  
 “of house to house visitation amongst the poorer classes. In  
 “almost every instance her visits have been received courteously  
 “and gratefully: in only two cases has any opposition been  
 “manifest, but on the object of the visit being explained, such  
 “opposition entirely disappeared.

“In connection with this branch of the work many nuisances  
 “were discovered, such as dirty floors and woodwork, dirty bedding,  
 “and children kept in an unclean condition, or insufficiently fed  
 “and clothed. Verbal notice to remedy these conditions is given,  
 “and on the occasion of the next visit, they are generally found  
 “to be remedied, though in many cases constant supervision is  
 “necessary, owing to the filthy and destructive habits of the  
 “tenants.

“ On the whole, a distinct improvement in the cleanliness of  
 “ the house and bedding is manifest throughout the district :  
 “ the children are also better cared for, although there is still much  
 “ need for improvement in this latter particular. Any very bad  
 “ cases of neglect are reported to the Society for the Prevention  
 “ of Cruelty to Children.

“ A great amount of ignorance still prevails on the subject of  
 “ infant feeding. Special enquiries are always made at the time  
 “ of visit as to the method of feeding, and instruction in such case  
 “ is given verbally, together with a printed memorandum on the  
 “ care of infants and young children.

“ It has been found in many instances that these leaflets  
 “ have borne good fruit and that the advice given by the Female  
 “ Inspector has been acted upon with good results.

“ Enquiry visits during the autumn were paid to houses where  
 “ fatal cases of Infantile Diarrhœa had occurred and in almost  
 “ every instance the method of feeding was found to be incorrect.  
 “ Any nuisances of a structural nature found in the course of house-  
 “ hold visitation are reported to the District Inspector: defective  
 “ water fittings causing water waste, or uncleansed ashpits are  
 “ referred to the Departments dealing with these matters, and  
 “ are always attended to promptly.

“ The schools in the district have all been visited, and  
 “ enquiries made regarding any children in attendance in a neg-  
 “ lected or dirty condition. Fortunately such cases are compara-  
 “ tively rare. Those reported are visited at their homes until a  
 “ marked improvement in their condition is observed. Letter-  
 “ cards are distributed to the head-teachers, in order that such  
 “ cases may be notified to the Health Department as they arise.

“ Workshops employing female labour, viz. :—milliners, dress-  
 “ makers, confectioners, and laundries, have been inspected.  
 “ The condition as regards cleanliness, ventilation and air-space  
 “ of these workshops is very good. None were found to be over-  
 “ crowded, and very few were dirty : of these, all were cleansed  
 “ on the occasion of the next visit.”

TABLE XVI.—**Vaccination Return for Wallasey, from 1st July, 1902, to the 30th June, 1903**

Successfully Vaccinated .. .. .	1,411
Died before Vaccination . . . . .	138
Insusceptible .. .. .	11
Conscientious Objections.. .. .	2
Postponed by Medical Certificate .. .. .	25
Removed, Traced, and Vaccination Offices Notified .. .. .	13
Not found .. .. .	33
Unaccounted for .. .. .	1
<b>Total Births Registered .. .. .</b>	<b>1,634</b>

Food, etc.,  
Statistics.

This gives a percentage of 2·1 of the 1,634 births not accounted for as compared with 2·5 per cent. in 1902.

The percentage of Births where parents got exemption on the ground of conscientious objections was only 0·12.

The next Table gives the usual Water Statistics, as kindly furnished by Mr. J. H. Crowther, the Water Engineer.

Volume of Water supplied from Jan. 1, 1903, to Dec. 31, 1903	650,161,621	galls.
Average supplied per day .. .. .	1,781,263	"
Average Consumption per day per head .. .. .	32·37	"
Divided as follows:—		
Supplied by Meter .. .. .	6·54	galls.
Supplied to Shipping .. .. .	·16	"
Watering Streets and Roadmaking .. .. .	·37	"
Flushing Sewers by Hose and Cart.. .. .	·39	"
Domestic and other purposes, including Drinking Fountains .. .. .	24·91	"

The quantity of Water used for flushing sewers during the year was 7,880,700 gallons.

In connection with the Water Statistics, mention ought to be made of the important fact that the supply of Vyrnwy Water commenced on the 10th of October, 1903.

Owing to the old Poulton Wells Nos. I. and II. becoming impregnated with too large a proportion of salt, it was felt that it was not safe to depend entirely on the Seaview Road Well, and after long and protracted consideration of a water supply, it was finally decided not to seek an independent source, but to apply to Liverpool to provide Vyrnwy water. The result of this was that a pipe line was laid from

near Norton Tower in the Delamere District from the Liverpool main line, and at present we take at the rate of 500,000 gallons daily from this source. Owing to leakages and breakages, such as generally occur in a new pipe line, the supply has not as yet been quite regular, but these defects will soon be made good, and meanwhile there has been an ample supply of pure and good drinking water from the Seaview Road source. The Water Committee and Mr. Crowther, the Water Engineer, are to be heartily congratulated on the results of their arduous labours in bringing this about.

I now add some statistics as to the work done in our District under the Sale of Food and Drugs and Margarine Acts, during 1903, as furnished to me by the Chief Inspector (Mr. W. D. Laird) of the County Council. Water  
Statistics.

**Particulars of Samples Purchased under the  
Sale of Food and Drugs and Margarine Acts  
in the Wallasey District during the Year  
ending 31st December, 1903.**

Name of Sample.	No. of Samples.	No. of Samples certified as Adulterated.
Arrowroot .. .. .	1	—
Brandy .. .. .	1	—
Butter .. .. .	42	1
Cheese .. .. .	1	—
Coffee .. .. .	16	1
Gin .. .. .	1	—
Golden Syrup .. .. .	1	—
Lard .. .. .	5	—
Margarine .. .. .	20	—
Milk .. .. .	38	2
Pepper .. .. .	4	—
Rice Ground, .. .. .	1	—
Rum .. .. .	2	—
Saveloy .. .. .	2	—
Sugar—Demerara .. .. .	3	—
Sweets .. .. .	6	—
Whiskey .. .. .	9	2
Totals ..	153	6

NOTES.—The Saveloys were specially tested for preservatives and were found to contain 20 grains borax to the pound.

The sweets were highly coloured ones selected for the purpose of testing the colouring matters used. All were pronounced harmless by the Analyst.

The Margarines were purchased to see if the Law as to labelling, &c., is being properly observed. All the samples were delivered to purchasers in properly marked wrappers.

**Particulars of Prosecutions under the Sale of  
Food and Drugs Acts in the Wallasey Dis-  
trict during the Year ending December  
31st, 1903.**

No.	Nature of Offence.	Result of Prosecution.
1	Selling Milk from which 20 per cent. of its Fat had been abstracted .	Fined £5 together with 15/6 costs.
2	Selling Milk from which 13 per cent. of its Fat had been abstracted .	Fined £1 together with 14/6 costs.
3	Selling Magarine as Butter . . . . .	Fined 30/- together with 14/6 costs.
4	Selling Coffee adulterated with 30 per cent. of Chicory . . . . .	Fined 10/- together with 14/6 costs.
5	Selling Whiskey 34 degrees under proof . . . . .	Ordered to pay 10/6 costs.
6	Selling Whiskey 36 degrees under proof . . . . .	Ordered to pay 10/6 costs.

I am, Gentlemen,

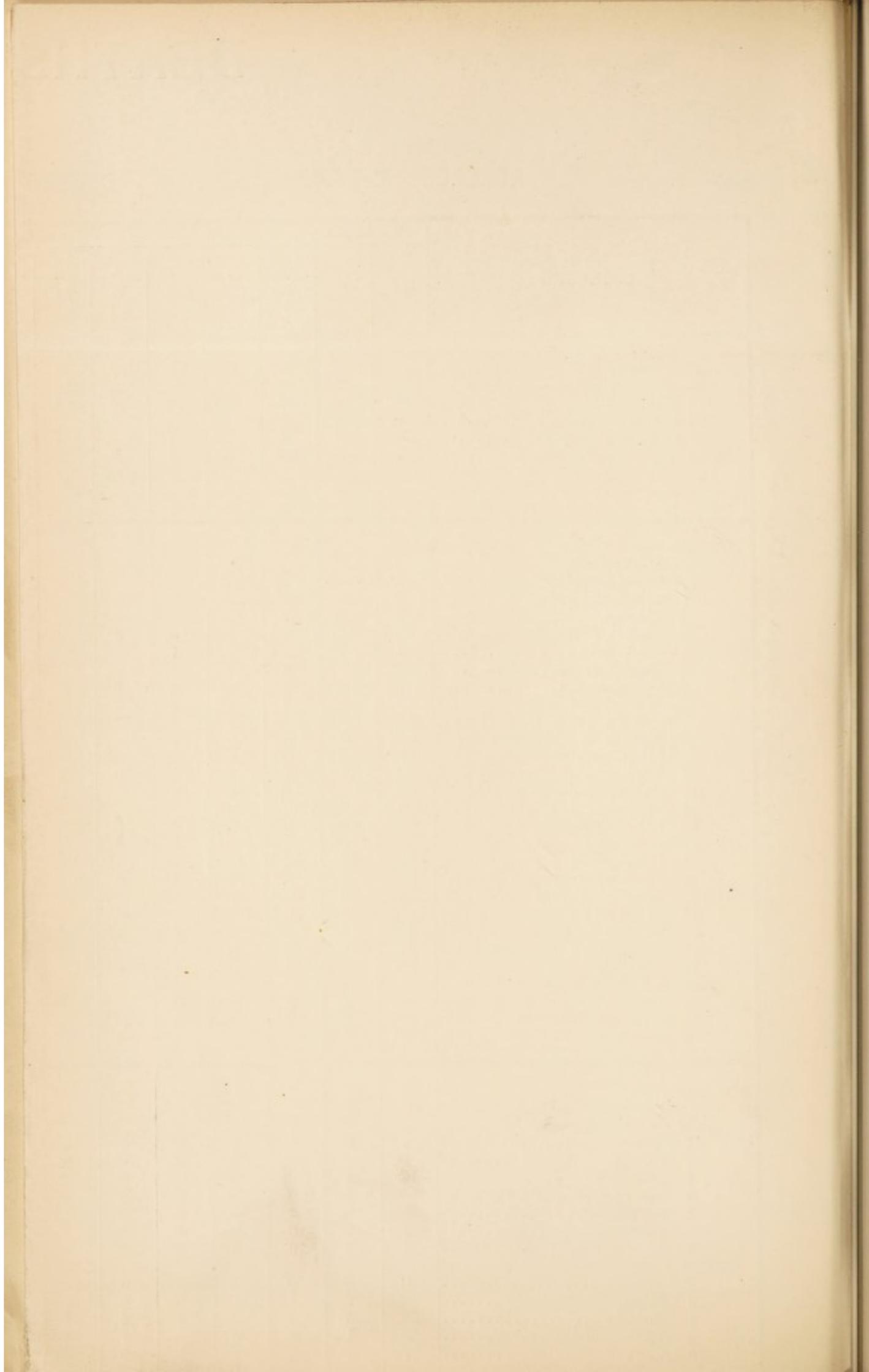
Yours obediently,

**A. CRAIGMILE, M.A., M.D.,**

**Medical Officer of Health.**

February 22nd, 1904.





ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**

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1903

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1903.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH, HOSPITAL  
AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to the Chairman and Members of your Committee my Fourteenth Annual Report with regard to the Sanitary Work carried out in this Department during the year ending 31st December, 1903.

A vacancy has occurred on the Staff during the past year, due to the recent appointment of Mr. E. A. Burch as Inspector of Nuisances to the Windsor Rural Sanitary Authority. Owing to the extra duties due to the outbreak of Smallpox, it had been found necessary to secure some temporary additional assistance, and Mr. George Davies, of Egremont, was engaged in connection with the special work of visitation.

As Mr. Davies held the necessary qualifying certificate of the Sanitary Institute, and had given every satisfaction during his temporary engagement, your Committee subsequently decided to recommend his appointment to the permanent position vacated by Mr. Burch.

Some three years ago your Committee discussed the question of appointing a Female Sanitary Inspector. The matter was, however, deferred until May of this year, when, in conjunction with a report from the Medical Officer of Health with regard to the provision of a Sterilized Milk Depôt, the subject was again further considered.

Decision to  
appoint.  
Duties of  
Female  
Inspector.

It was subsequently resolved to appoint a Female Inspector, whose duties would consist of making house to house visitations in the poorest parts of the district, and directing attention to the sanitary condition of the house and surroundings; also the giving of such advice as might be necessary with regard to the rearing and feeding of infants.

Applications  
for position.

An advertisement was inserted in the principal Sanitary Journals, and some 28 applications were received for the appointment. These were subsequently dealt with by the Sub-Committee, who recommended the selection of six of the applicants. Your Committee, after interviewing the Candidates, decided to appoint Miss I. Birrell, who had been engaged for about two years in the Public Health Department of the Liverpool Corporation.

Miss Birrell  
appointed.

Scope of  
work.

Since the latter part of August, when she commenced her duties, a large amount of excellent work has been carried out. A considerable area of the district has been visited from house to house. Handbills have been distributed, and advice given as to the rearing and feeding of children, and the prevention of infectious diseases.

In addition to this, there are some 87 Workshops, where female labour is employed, under her supervision. The points to which attention is directed are, the matter of overcrowding, and the conditions obtaining in connection with the sanitary arrangements generally.

A perusal of those portions of this Report having reference to the details of the work carried out by Miss Birrell would be of considerable interest, and would give some idea as to the importance of this branch of the Department's work.

### Office Accommodation.

Insufficient  
Office  
Accommoda-  
tion.

During the year I have found it absolutely necessary to draw the attention of your Committee to the necessity for providing additional offices for the use of this Department. The insufficient accommodation had, for the past two or three years, seriously interfered with the proper transaction of public business. The difficulties of the position were considerably increased by the appointment of a Female Inspector, and

as pointed out to your Committee at the time, the most economical way in which this increased accommodation could be provided, was by annexing the adjoining house, No. 15, to the present offices. I subsequently approached the Manager of the Richmond Gas Stove Company, who had a lease on the former premises, and ultimately, he agreed to vacate, on our undertaking to recoup the actual cost of removal to premises higher up the street, together with a slight expenditure in connection with the alteration of printed matter and the re-fixing of gas fittings, &c.

Negotiations  
re taking of  
15, Church  
Street.

Arrange-  
ments with  
occupiers to  
vacate.

It is only due to the Manager of the Gas Stove Company that I should record my appreciation of the manner in which he met us in our difficulty. After discussing the matter at considerable length, he promised that, if possible, everything should be done to facilitate the transference of the premises then in the Company's occupation to this Department. The whole of the arrangements were subsequently carried through satisfactorily, and no charge whatever was made upon the Department in the nature of compensation for the inconvenience caused by their having to vacate the adjoining premises.

Premises now  
Nos. 13 & 15,  
Church Street

### Disinfecting Station.

Considerable difficulty having been experienced in connection with the obtaining of prompt information as to the removal of infectious cases, I considered it desirable to suggest that the Disinfecting Station at Mill Lane Hospital be placed in direct telephonic communication with this Department. I therefore communicated with the Surveyor, who brought the matter before the Health Committee in the form of a special report. It was ultimately decided to obtain an estimate for connecting the two Departments, and subsequently the work was carried out. Since that date no difficulty whatever has been experienced, prompt information having been received when patients have been removed to Mill Lane Hospital; and, in addition, the work of disinfection has been considerably expedited.

Telephonic  
communica-  
tion with  
Disinfecting  
Hospital at  
Mill Lane  
Station.

### Sterilized Milk.

Acting under instructions received from your Committee, I have submitted a Special Report during the year with regard to the cost of establishing a Sterilized Milk Depôt in some suitable locality in this

Report re  
establishment  
of Sterilized  
Milk Depôt.

Delivery  
charges  
prohibitive.

district. The charges for collecting the milk from the Liverpool Corporation's Earl Street Depôt, and delivering same here, were such as practically prohibited the obtaining of a supply from this particular source.

Visits to  
other Depôts.

In this connection I visited three of the Liverpool Depôts and examined the Sterilizing Machinery and method of working thereat. Before proceeding to Brussels, I also took the opportunity, whilst in London, of visiting the borough of Battersea. By kind permission of the Medical Officer of Health there, I was allowed to inspect the Corporation's Milk Depôt erected in that district.

In view of the possibility of your Committee supplying Sterilized Milk for the use of infants in this district, it would probably be of interest if I gave some particulars as to the preliminary steps taken prior to the opening of the Depôt at Battersea.

Particulars *re*  
Battersea  
Depôt.

Battersea was one of the early English Boroughs, following St. Helens, to adopt the process of sterilizing and humanizing milk for the use of infants. It would appear that, in the early Spring of 1901, a Sub-Committee of the Health Committee was appointed to enquire into the conditions giving rise to the high rate of Infantile Mortality in the Borough, and to recommend measures for its reduction. The Sub-Committee came to the conclusion, after making very exhaustive enquiries, that a large proportion of the infantile mortality was due to improper feeding. Their Report was subsequently submitted to the Health Committee, who recommended the Council to adopt the method of supplying the public with Humanized Sterilized Milk, and for this purpose voted a sum of £400 to start the scheme.

A house in a prominent position was obtained and adapted for the purpose of a Sterilized Milk Depôt, at a cost of £250. £150 was spent in connection with the obtaining of the necessary appliances.

It was very interesting to note that arrangements had been entered into with the Board of Guardians whereby the Relieving Officer was empowered to issue orders for a weekly supply of milk, in lieu of giving money for outdoor relief.

From the first there had been a good demand for the milk, and by the end of the first year 360 children were being fed on it. A large amount of testimony has been received from the medical men of Battersea as to the advantages arising from being able to obtain sterilized milk, and the highly satisfactory results which have accrued from its use for feeding purposes in connection with their own private practice.

The Medical Officer states that the Milk Depôt has had a distinctly beneficial effect on the health of the child population of Battersea, and he is thoroughly satisfied that, when the system has been in operation for a longer period, very striking results will be obtained in connection with the high rate of Infantile Mortality in the Borough.

Your Committee has on several occasions carefully considered the matter of opening a Sterilized Milk Depôt, but it was ultimately decided to defer the question, and in the meantime to obtain further information as to the cost of setting up and working Sterilized Milk Depôts in other districts.

Establishment of Wallasey Milk Depôt. in abeyance.

### Outbreak of Smallpox.

In connection with the 26 cases of Smallpox notified in this district during the year, prompt visitation has in each instance been made. The drains and sanitary arrangements have been thoroughly flushed and disinfected, not only at the houses at which the infection has occurred, but also of those attached to all the property in the immediate neighbourhood. The whole of the ashpits, etc., in the infected area have been cleansed, and arrangements made for their weekly clearance for at least a month following the date of notification. In a similar manner our flushing gangs have repeated their flushing and disinfection for at least 14 days after the date of notification. Disinfectants have also been freely distributed, and prompt fumigation of the infected rooms has been carried out. Arrangements have been made for the stripping and cleansing of 98 rooms by the Department's own men, the owner in each case subsequently re-papering and liming. The infected wall papers have been immediately removed to the

Precautions adopted in each case of Smallpox.

Destructor Works, and there burned. Carbolacene and liquid soap have also been supplied to the occupiers for use after stripping, etc., has been carried out.

Visits to contacts.

1,142 visits of enquiry have been made in connection with all persons having been in contact with Smallpox patients, either in this or adjoining districts, and the usual reports were promptly forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health.

In addition to this, a large number of persons residing in this district, and having been in contact with cases of Smallpox occurring in the city of Liverpool, or on vessels arriving in the port, have also been visited daily. So far, however, I am glad to say that no actual case of Smallpox has resulted in this connection.

Vaccination of contacts.

In almost every instance I have been successful in inducing persons who have been in contact with Smallpox to submit to re-vaccination.

Intimations to Vaccination Officer.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Local Government Board, I have notified the Vaccination Officer as to the cases of Smallpox occurring in this district.

### Lairages.

Meat Inspector refused admittance to Lairages, which were in charge of Board of Agriculture's Inspectors.

On visiting the Lairages in the latter part of June, the Meat Inspector ascertained that a consignment of cattle had been landed at the Alfred Warehouses from Buenos Ayres. He found that the Lairages were in the hands of the Inspectors of the Board of Agriculture, and he was practically refused admittance for the purpose of examining the carcasses. He subsequently interviewed the Board's Inspectors at the entrance to the wharf, who, however, objected to allow him to enter any of the Lairages where the affected animals were. He was, therefore, on this occasion, unable to make an examination of either the carcasses or slaughterhouses. This is the first occasion on which the officer has been refused admittance. It would appear that under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, although apparently, a local Authority's Inspector's powers are co-equal with those of an Inspector for the Board of Agriculture, yet, on referring to that portion of the Act dealing

with administration, it is found to apply only to Officers appointed by Incorporated Boroughs, or County Councils. It is unfortunate that your Inspector was not allowed to examine the carcasses, as he has always found among such a consignment, some portions of the animal, after slaughtering, to be unfit for human food, and which he has not hesitated to seize and destroy. The carcasses of animals slaughtered in this way do eventually appear in the cooling houses attached to the Lairages, but there is practically no offal to be examined at that stage, which places your Inspector at a great disadvantage.

### Lower Parade.

As in previous years a house to house inspection was made of the premises on the Lower Parade prior to the Easter holidays, the whole of the Staff assisting in this special work. Several defective conditions were found to exist, for the remedying of which the usual preliminary notices were served upon the respective owners and occupiers.

House to house inspection.

Notices for defects.

Re-visits of inspection were made, and where no steps had been taken to abate the nuisances, your Committee authorized the service of the Statutory Notices; in default of compliance, legal proceedings to be instituted against the persons responsible. The whole of the nuisances were found to have been subsequently abated.

Proceedings authorized.

Nuisances abated.

### Congress.

A special detailed report has during the year been prepared and submitted to your Committee in connection with my attendance at the Eleventh Annual Congress of Hygiene and Demography, held at Brussels, in September last.

Report re Brussels Congress.

I find in preparing this Report, I omitted to refer to the excellent Mortuary House which has been opened under the direction of a Public Charity. The building is a fine one, well constructed, and furnished throughout in an excellent manner. In this mortuary the remains of persons may be placed until the day of burial. A separate place is provided for each body, and no fees are demanded from the very poor or other deserving cases. In addition to this, the Charity Office

Description of public mortuary.

undertake the removal of the remains from the house to the Mortuary, and subsequently provide the necessary conveyances and the grave for the interment of the body.

The premises are open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m., and the cost of conveyances, etc., is entirely defrayed by the Public Charity.

I have again to thank your Committee for affording me the opportunity of being present at this Congress as a delegate. It enabled me to obtain a very large amount of useful and valuable information.

### **Sewerage and Drainage Re-construction.**

Drains  
opened.

In connection with the notification of a case of Typhoid at a certain house in The Avenue, New Brighton, a report was submitted to the Health Committee, and permission subsequently obtained from the Council to open the drains and branches attached to the various houses.

Defects  
discovered.

The pipes were bared for inspection, and the joints in connection with the branch drains from the yard, w.c.'s, and gullies were found in a defective and open condition, having originally been made with clay. Several square junctions were observed to be broken.

The whole of the systems attached to both rows of houses were connected to a 12-inch main sewer running under the yards at the rear of the property. This main sewer was in a very defective and open condition.

Letter to  
Surveyor  
*re* Sewer.

The Surveyor was communicated with respecting the state of this latter sewer, and he at once gave instructions for its abolition and the laying in of new main sewers beneath the passages at the rear.

Branch  
drains re-laid.

The branch drains to the various yard fittings were entirely re-laid with proper fall and cement joints, and connected to the new sewers.

Insanitary  
Ashpits.

The whole of the ashpits attached to the houses were found to be in an uncovered and uncemented condition, and considerably below the level of the ground adjoining.

Other defects.

Several of the w.c. basins were broken, and in two cases downspouts were found of insufficient length, causing dampness to house walls.

The whole of the works necessary to remedy these insanitary conditions were subsequently carried out to the satisfaction of the District Inspector. Remedial works executed.

Complaints having been received as to the prevalence of offensive smells in the neighbourhood of Limekiln Lane, Poulton, the locality was frequently visited. It was subsequently found that the odours proceeded from a point in the Dock Board Sewer, situate about 100 yards south of the Gas Works. I communicated with the Manager of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, and ultimately, he advised me that arrangements had been made to repair and properly trap that portion of the sewer complained of. Choked sewer, Dock Road.

### Nuisances.

Owing to the flooded condition of certain property in Park Road, Somerville, the whole of the ditches adjoining a field situated to the South-west of Liscard Road have been cleansed and deepened during the year. Cleansing and deepening of ditches.

On visiting certain vacant land forming the eastern side of Orrell Road, Liscard, a man was found to be occupying a shed erected at the northern end. The shed was divided into two apartments, the inner one occupied by the man, and the outer evidently used as a fowlhouse. At the time of inspection the occupier was found lying on a heap of rags and old clothing. The place was in a filthy state, the bare earth forming the floors of the shed. A large accumulation of refuse was scattered about the place, and there was practically no means for light or ventilation. The shed being entirely unfit for human habitation, a notice was forthwith served on the owner to cleanse and close it against further occupation. I subsequently had an interview with the occupant, and as he appeared to be a man of unsound mind, I communicated with the Medical Officer of Health for the Birkenhead Union, who after visitation had him removed to the Tranmere Workhouse. Shed used as a dwelling. Objectionable conditions. Notice to close. Shed vacated.

A petition having been received from the residents of Tudor Avenue, Seacombe, with regard to the deposit of refuse on certain land to the south of that road, an inspection was made, and apart from the objectionable matters deposited, there were unsightly conditions. Offensive refuse on vacant land.

- Letter to owners. existing in connection with the surface which also required attention. A portion of the land at the lower end had also been improperly used. I communicated with the owners, suggesting the clearing away of the deposits, the proper enclosing of the site with an unclimbable fence, and the erection of a notice board warning persons against depositing rubbish, etc. A promise was made at the time that the matter should receive attention, but other than the removal of the objectionable deposits, practically nothing has been done to enclose the site, although a notice board warning persons against depositing rubbish has been erected.
- Rubbish removed and notice board erected.
- Offensive pool. Complaints having been received from certain residents as to the objectionable condition of a pool at the rear of Canterbury Road, Somerville, the usual notice to remove the offensive deposits was served on the occupier of the land on which the pool was situated. Much of the objectionable matter was subsequently removed, but it was found that a considerable quantity of household refuse had been deposited by the tenants of the adjoining property.
- Site cleansed.

### Offensive Smells.

- Smells from burning oil from a Works in Birkenhead. Complaints having been received with regard to the prevalence of offensive smells in the neighbourhood of Poulton, the District Inspectors acting under my instructions, have visited the whole of this part of the district. The odours have been frequently found to be most objectionable. These offensive smells, which resemble burning vegetable oil, were found to be particularly in evidence in the vicinity of Poulton Bridge and the roads adjacent thereto. The source was subsequently traced to the Anglo-American Oil Company's Depôt situated on the Dock side, but in the Birkenhead District. On visiting the yard of these Works, the odours were found arising from one of the buildings erected therein. The Engineer was interviewed, and it was found that these objectionable smells were caused by the overheating of colza oil. I have been advised that a condensing apparatus is now being provided for the purpose of preventing the nuisance. During prevailing south-westerly winds, the objectionable smells are noticeable all over Poulton and South Seacombe. I have repeatedly written to the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Birkenhead Corporation, with
- Communications to Birkenhead Inspector.

regard to this matter, and he has instructed the District Inspector to pay frequent visits to the Works. In the meantime, the officers engaged in this Department are also keeping the depôt under observation, with a view to taking such steps as may be necessary for preventing a continuance of the nuisance. Own observations continue.

Several complaints having been received from residents in New Brighton as to the dirty condition of the railway carriages running between New Brighton Station and the Dock Station, Birkenhead, an examination was made, when it was found that the Smoking compartments were in a particularly objectionable state. I communicated with the Manager, and on re-inspection it was found that the apartments had been cleansed. Railway carriages dirty.  
Letter to Manager.  
Cleansing effected.

A large pit containing objectionable deposits, and situated on certain land opposite to Imperial Avenue, Liscard, has been cleansed and abolished, and the site utilised for building purposes. Cleansing and abolition of pit.

### **Volunteer Camp.**

A Company of Volunteers formed a camping ground on certain land to the west of Hose Side Road, New Brighton, during the month of August. An examination of the sanitary arrangements was made, when it was found that all possible precautions were being taken to render the camp thoroughly sanitary. No circumstances arose during the time the site was so occupied which called for any action by this Department in the interests of the public health. Camp sanitary arrangements satisfactory.

### **Correspondence.**

There has again been a considerable amount of correspondence during the past year, 3,142 letters, etc. (as against 2,901 last year) having been issued with regard to nuisances and failures to comply with Preliminary and Statutory Notices, the improper and incomplete execution of sanitary work, and various other matters in connection with the work of the Department. 2,849 letters have been received and dealt with during the same period, a substantial increase over the figures for the previous year. Letters re Notices, &c.

148 circulars have been despatched in regard to the lime-washing and cleansing required under the Council's Bye-laws made with respect to dairies, cowsheds, milk shops, sub-let houses, and slaughter-houses. Lime-washing Circulars.

## Special Complaints.

Notices served.

964 Special Complaints have been received and enquired into during the past year, as against 671 for the previous year. In 844 cases cause for complaint was found to exist, and a Preliminary Notice was served upon the owner to remedy the defective conditions existing. In 120 cases there was either no nuisance apparent at the time of inspection, or the cause of complaint was not considered of sufficient importance to warrant the service of a notice upon the owner. In 19

Occupiers neglect to clean fittings.

cases the nuisances complained of were found on inspection to be due to failure on the part of the occupier to keep the various sanitary fittings free from grease and deposits of a like nature. In these cases, the tenants were called upon to carry out the necessary work.

Abatements by flushers.

In 16 instances nuisances were abated by the flushers, whilst in 159 instances it was found that the matters complained of came within the province of other departments of the Council, to which they were accordingly referred.

## Abatement of Nuisances.

### NOTICES ISSUED.

Notices issued.

1,472 Notices have been issued by this Department in order to bring about the abatement of nuisances existing in various parts of the district. The necessary works have been specified in detail so as to remedy existing defective conditions.

## Non-compliance with Statutory Notices.

Legal proceedings for failure to abate nuisances.

A large number of persons have been reported during the year for failing to comply with Statutory Notices requiring the abatement of nuisances at premises situate in the district. In each case, legal proceedings were ordered by your Committee to be taken, and in many instances the owners, upon receipt of a written intimation as to our intention to lay an information, executed the necessary works, thus abating the nuisances complained of.

Notice on occupiers.

Many notices have this year been served upon the occupiers of premises to abate nuisances caused by neglect to keep the gullies and sanitary conveniences clean and in good order and condition.

## Drain Testing.

At all houses where Typhoid or Diphtheria has occurred, the drains Smoke tests. have been tested either with Smoke Rockets or the Grahtryx Machine. In this way many defects have been revealed which it were impossible to observe from a superficial inspection. Tests have been applied to new drains in course of construction, and also in all other cases where it Water tests. was thought necessary or desirable. In a few cases the hydraulic test has been applied. The total number of tests carried out during the twelve months was 289.

## Drainage Re-Construction.

A large amount of work has been done during the past year in connection with the re-construction of drains. At the following houses entire re-construction has taken place :—

### SEACOMBE.

100, Brighton Street ; 160, Brighton Street ; 189, Brighton Street ;  
108, Bell Road ; 39, Demesne Street ; 98, Gladstone Road ;  
40 to 50, Milton Road ; 16, Oakdale Road ; Somerville  
House, Poulton Road.

### EGREMONT.

45, Wright Street ; 70, Church Street ; 8, Walmsley Street.

### LISCARD.

15, Radnor Drive ; 42, Sea View Road ; 50, Sea View Road ;  
“ Westmoreland House,” Sea Bank Road ; “ Halidon,” Sea  
Bank Road ; North & South Wales Bank, Liscard Road ;  
23, Townfield Lane ; 6, Zig Zag Road ; 13, Haydock Road.

### NEW BRIGHTON.

33, Victoria Road ; 86, Victoria Road ; 2 & 4, Poplar Terrace ;  
12, Dudley Road ; 1 to 11, The Avenue ; 2 to 14, The  
Avenue ; 23, Virginia Road ; 6, Cardigan Road ; 28, Sand-  
rock Road.

### WALLASEY.

9, Leasowe Road.

Partial re-construction only has been necessary at the following houses :—

## SEACOMBE.

2 to 12, Gladstone Road ; “ Royal Oak ” Hotel, Oakdale Road ;  
“ Great Float ” Hotel, Havelock Street ; 33, Albemarle Road ;  
68, Victoria Road ; 35, Buchanan Road ; 76, Falkland  
Road ; 2, Mersey Terrace.

## EGREMONT.

52, Union Street ; 12, Guildford Street ; 5, Gresford Place ;  
24 & 26, Gresford Place ; 11, Stringhey Road ; 10 & 16,  
Clydesdale Road ; 80, Green Lane ; 13, Rice Hey Road ;  
1, Back King Street ; 2 & 4, Church Street.

## LISCARD.

6 & 8, Holland Road ; 31, Radnor Drive ; “ Turfmoor,”  
Penkett Road.

## NEW BRIGHTON.

4, Sheen Road.

## WALLASEY.

9, Leasowe Road ; “ Breck Villa,” Breck Road.

In addition to those named in the foregoing list, the drains in connection with the following houses have during the year been laid bare for inspection. In almost each instance defects were discovered, which were subsequently remedied by the owners on receipt of a notice from this Department.

## SEACOMBE.

Poulton Villa, Poulton Road ; 20, St. Paul’s Road ; 26, St.  
Paul’s Road.

## EGREMONT.

13, Green Lane ; 6, South View Terrace.

The drains and sanitary fittings attached to the premises “ Hollins Hey,” New Brighton, have during the year been entirely re-constructed. A properly covered manure-pit has been erected, and a well trapped gully fixed in the external area, specially constructed for the purpose of drainage.

The sanitary arrangements attached to the Presbyterian Church, Trafalgar Road, have been recently re-modelled, in accordance with the suggestions made following my inspection.

## Sanitary Inspection of Schools and Other Public Buildings.

### SEAFIELD SCHOOL, ALBION STREET.

Various sanitary improvements have been effected in connection with the yard surface and the gully traps. The asphits have also been abolished, and bins provided in lieu thereof. Sanitary improvements.

### GIRLS' SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE.

The main drain from the lavatories attached to this school, and which receives the slop water and storm drainage, has been taken up and re-laid with cement joints. The execution of this work facilitates the obtaining of a more satisfactory gradient. Various down-spouts have also been disconnected and arranged to discharge over properly trapped gullies. Main drain re-laid.  
Improvements effected.

### ST. LUKE'S SCHOOLS.

Several sanitary defects discovered at these schools have been remedied during the year, following the usual inspection.

### NORTH & SOUTH WALES BANK, LISCARD.

During the early part of the year the drains in connection with these premises were entirely re-constructed. The whole of the works were supervised by the officers of this Department, and frequently tested during their progress. Drains re-constructed.

## Inspection of Licensed Premises.

### GREAT FLOAT HOTEL, HAVELOCK STREET, AND ROYAL OAK HOTEL, OAKDALE ROAD.

A considerable amount of work in connection with the remedying of sanitary defects has been carried out at these premises during the year.

## KING'S ARMS, LISCARD ROAD.

The drains and sanitary arrangements attached to these licensed premises have during the year been entirely re-constructed under the supervision of this Department.

## FERRY HOTEL, NEW BRIGHTON.

Sanitary  
improvements  
effected.

Suggestions have been made as to the desirability of re-constructing the lavatory accommodation provided at these licensed premises for the use of excursionists. Plans were subsequently prepared with this object in view, and the whole of the necessary work carried out.

## GROSVENOR HOTEL, NEW BRIGHTON.

Sanitary  
arrange-  
ments re-  
constructed.

The sanitary arrangements attached to these licensed premises have been examined during the year, and the whole of the works suggested for their re-construction have been carried out. In addition, certain improvements have also been effected in connection with the public lavatory provided at the rear of the building.

**House-to-House Inspection.**

House-to-house Inspections have been carried out as under, and notices served for defects discovered :—

## SEACOMBE.

Mersey Street ; 23 to 33, Tudor Avenue ; Ferry View Road ; Beaconsfield Road ; Bosnia Street ; Brighton Place ; Platt Street ; 2 to 24, Gladstone Road ; 1 to 5, Hawthorn Cottages ; 15 to 27, Parry Street ; 17 to 23, Middle Road ; 1 to 7, Alice Avenue ; 2 to 12, Alice Avenue ; 2 to 20, Margaret Street ; 1 to 29, Fell Street ; 3 to 23, Havelock Street ; 38 to 50, Milton Road ; Thomas' Buildings ; 1 to 10, Higher Seacombe ; Hygeia Cottages ; Servia Street ; 7 to 13, Demesne Street ; 14 to 40 and 54 to 62, Demesne Street ; 11 to 17, Abbotsford Street ; 3 to 9, Hawthorndale Road ; 27 to 31, Hawthorndale Road ; 2 to 20, Cherrybank Road ; 39 to 59, Ashville Road ; 80 to 108, Ashville Road ; 1 to 19, Andrew Street ; 1 to 11, Margaret Street ; 7 to 17, Oakdale Road ; 2 to 12, Geneva Road ; 2 to 18, Sandon Road.

## POULTON.

24 to 28, Clayton Lane.

## EGREMONT.

Walmsley Street;] Brook Place; 1 to 27, Stringhey Road;  
1 Green Lane; Brook Street; 2 to 10, Agnes Grove;  
2, South View Terrace.

## LISCARD.

5 to 11, St. Alban's Road; Apsley Avenue; Grange Avenue;  
Hope Place.

## NEW BRIGHTON.

Plantation Cottages; Victoria Place; Lower Parade; Cath-  
erine Street; Plantation View; 1 to 11 and 2 to 14, The  
Avenue.

## WALLASEY.

226 to 234, Wallasey Village; Granville Terrace (West side).

The Female Sanitary Inspector has devoted a considerable amount of time since her appointment, to the work of house to house visitation amongst the poorer classes, educating them in the value of personal and household cleanliness. The details of this work for the four months ending December 31st, are as follow:—

Number of Streets visited	.. .. .	271
„ „ Houses inspected	.. .. .	1,598
„ „ Apartments inspected	.. .. .	7,069
„ „ „ found clean	.. .. .	5,448
„ „ „ „ dirty	.. .. .	1,621
„ „ Families visited	.. .. .	1,990
„ „ Children in such Families	.. .. .	3,921
„ „ „ in dirty state	.. .. .	764
„ „ Families re-visited	.. .. .	873
„ „ Apartments in which dirty bedding was discovered	.. .. .	544
Intimations to Occupiers for cleansing	.. .. .	751
Houses at which sickness was discovered	.. .. .	285
„ „ „ cases of Diarrhoea were discovered	.. .. .	42
Special visits paid to houses at which fatal cases of Diarrhoea occurred	.. .. .	37

## OTHER WORK ATTENDED TO.

Special Complaints . . . . .	14
References to District Inspectors . . . . .	233
,,    ,, other Departments . . . . .	25
Schools and school cases visited . . . . .	70
References to S. P. C. C. . . . .	3
,,    ,, Relieving Officer . . . . .	1
Other special visits of enquiry . . . . .	19

**Privy Conversions.**

## BLACK HORSE INN, WALLASEY.

Privies and  
ashpit  
abolished.

The objectionable privies attached to these licensed premises have during the year been abolished, and suitable sanitary accommodation provided in lieu thereof. In addition to this, a large and offensive ashpit has also been removed, and a receptacle of a more modern description provided.

## 36, WALLASEY ROAD.

Old con-  
venience  
abolished.

The defective and objectionable convenience attached to this house has been abolished during the past year, as has also the ashpit in connection therewith. Modern sanitary accommodation has been provided, and other structural improvements effected, including the proper paving of the yard surface.

Improve-  
ments  
effected.

**Smoke Nuisances.**

Dense smoke  
emitted.

Owing to the complaints received with regard to the emission of smoke from various stacks attached to Works situate between Poulton Road and Dock Road, Seacombe, observations were made, and the chimneys were kept under almost daily supervision. It was found that for a period of from three to four minutes in several instances, dense smoke was emitted almost continually throughout the day. The matter was duly considered by your Committee, who authorized the service of the Statutory Notices on the respective owners. In one case a new chimney stack, together with an improved engine and boilers were erected, and within a few days a decided diminution took place in the quantity of smoke discharged from these particular Works.

Notices  
issued.

Improved  
machinery.

The stacks were kept under observation for some considerable time, and it was found that the emission of smoke from these chimneys was of such a moderate description as to practically warrant the withdrawal of the legal proceedings which had been ordered against the respective owners. Nuisance practically abated.

#### LEASOWE ROAD BRICK WORKS.

Observations have been taken during the year in connection with the emission of smoke from the chimney stack attached to the Brick-works, Leasowe Road, Wallasey. It was found that dense black smoke was discharged for a period of 19 or 20 minutes. The case was subsequently reported to your Committee, who authorized the issue of the usual Statutory Notice. Further observations were made, when it was found that greater care was exercised in stoking, and, in consequence, moderately black smoke only was emitted for a very short period. Dense black smoke. Notice issued. More care in stoking.

### Bye-laws with Respect to Nuisances.

#### STABLE YARD INSPECTIONS.

921 Visits have been paid to various stable yards in connection with the removal of manure, etc. A decided improvement has taken place with regard to the keeping of same in a cleanly condition, and in the observance of the Bye-laws as to the removal of manure.

Section 13 of the Council's Bye-laws made with respect to Nuisances, was found to have been contravened at certain stables at the rear of Kenilworth Road and Brighton Street, Seacombe. Clause 13 contravened. Complaints having been received frequently as to the objectionable condition of the yard and manure receptacle, your Committee authorized the service of the usual notices. Notices issued. The premises were subsequently cleansed and kept under observation, and as it was found that the nuisance recurred, it was decided to lay an information against the occupiers. The deposits having subsequently been removed, and the necessary repairs to the yard surface, drainage, &c., effected, the summons in this case was withdrawn. Recurring nuisance. Proceedings taken. Nuisance abated.

Cover to pit provided.

Clause 13 of the same Bye-laws was found to have been contravened at certain stables situate at the rear of 234, Liscard Road, Liscard. The usual notices were subsequently issued, and a suitable cover was eventually provided to the fitting in question.

Insufficient drains and manure receptacle.

Certain stables in Stanley Street, Seacombe, have been found without sufficient drains and a receptacle for manure, in contravention of the Bye-laws made with respect to Nuisances. Statutory Notices have been issued, and the premises have since been vacated. Remedial works are at the present time in progress.

Works in progress.

Insufficient manure receptacles.

Certain stables in Liscard Village, and situated at the corner of Sea View Road, together with others at the rear of "West View," Rowson Street, were found without sufficient manure receptacles. In these cases the usual notices have also been issued, and at the present time, these are being followed up by the Department.

Notices outstanding.

Offensive accumulation removed.

A nuisance having arisen at certain temporary stables erected on the Gorse Hill, New Brighton, the usual notice was issued under the Council's Bye-laws. The accumulation was at once removed, and since this time there appears to have been no further cause for complaint.

The stables situate at the rear of Nos. 34 and 36, Wallasey Road, have been brought up to the requirements of the Bye-laws; more efficient means for drainage, and properly covered manure pits having been provided under notice from this Department.

#### KEEPING OF SWINE.

Nuisance from keeping of pigs.

A nuisance arising from the keeping of swine in contravention of the Bye-Laws was found to exist at certain premises situate in Rake Lane, Liscard. Nine pigs were found in an extension of certain stables erected on ground which had originally formed the site of two pig-sties. The usual notice was served on the owner of the premises, and subsequently the animals were disposed of for slaughtering.

Abated after notice.

Nuisance from sty at rear of property.

Pigs were found to be kept in contravention of the Bye-laws in a certain sty at the rear of Granville Terrace, Wallasey. The owner's attention was drawn to the matter, and he subsequently complied with the notice served upon him with regard to the removal.

Abated.

It was found that swine were being kept within 60 feet of a dwelling-house at Wood Lane, Wallasey Village, in contravention of Bye-law No. 11 with respect to Nuisances. The owner was subsequently interviewed, and the customary notices served. Since this time the sty has not been used for the purpose of housing swine.

Bye-law  
No. 11  
contravened.  
  
Sty now  
in disuse.

### Description of Nuisances.

The following is a tabulated list of the Nuisances discovered and dealt with under the Public Health Acts and Council's Bye-laws:—

Houses found in a dirty condition	.. .. .	81
Do. in an overcrowded condition	.. .. .	1
Do. with defective or insufficient drains	.. .. .	185
Do. with choked drains .	.. .. .	341
Do. with defective channelling, dishing, &c..	.. .. .	212
Do. with no supply of water for domestic purposes	.. .. .	7
Do. with an insufficient supply of water for domestic purposes	.. .. .	7
Do. with no supply of water for flushing w.c.'s	.. .. .	59
Do. with an insufficient supply of water for flushing w.c.'s	.. .. .	45
Do. with defective w.c. putty joints and flush pipes	.. .. .	287
Do. with broken or foul w.c. basins and traps	.. .. .	223
Do. with sink and other waste pipes connected direct to main drain	.. .. .	9
Do. with bath, lavatory, pantry, and scullery waste pipes untrapped, allowing foul air to enter the house .	.. .. .	165
Do. with bath, lavatory, pantry and scullery waste pipes requiring repairs or re-arrangements	.. .. .	13
Do. with soil pipes requiring ventilation, repairs or re-jointing	.. .. .	59
Do. with defective or insufficient bath, lavatory, pantry, scullery, yard, or w.c. traps	.. .. .	121
Do. with waste pipes and yard gully traps badly arranged	.. .. .	7

Houses found with sink stones and lavatory basins badly arranged .. .. .	9
Do. with gullies in a foul condition .. .. .	53
Do. with w.c.'s requiring re-construction, repairs or cleansing, or offensive privies . . . . .	94
Do. with surfaces of yards or passages requiring re-tiling .. .. .	459
Do. with offensive rain-water tanks .. .. .	—
Do. with defective w.c. flushing cisterns .. .. .	66
Do. with waste pipes connected to soil pipe .. .. .	1
Do. with defective floors .. .. .	60
Do. with staircases in a dangerous condition, or insufficiently lighted .. .. .	2
Do. vacant and insecure against misuse by general public .. .. .	14
Do. with defective and dangerous walls .. .. .	43
Do. with damp walls .. .. .	18
Do. with rooms insufficiently lighted . . . . .	5
Do. with rooms insufficiently ventilated .. .. .	3
Do. without through ventilation under floors .. .. .	1
Do. with roof gutters and down-spouts connected direct to main or requiring repairs .. .. .	208
Do. with defective roofs .. .. .	139
Do. without proper and sufficient ashpits or bins .. .. .	224
Do. with no receptacle for house refuse .. .. .	10
Do. with yard surfaces dirty .. .. .	31
Do. without water-closet accommodation .. .. .	—
Rooms stripped and cleansed after infectious disease . . . . .	260
Bedding found in a dirty condition .. .. .	3
Nuisances arising from the emission of dense smoke from chimneys . . . . .	11
Nuisances arising from escapes of coal gas .. .. .	4
Offensive accumulations found requiring removal .. .. .	38
Do. ponds found requiring cleansing .. .. .	3
Do. cesspools found .. .. .	1
Defective cesspit receiving yard drainage. . . . .	—

Offensive ditches .. .. .	1
Disused wells containing stagnant water discovered .. ..	—
Sub-soil water nuisances .. .. .	20
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance .. .. .	17
Carcases found requiring removal.. .. .	5
Unfenced Quarries .. .. .	—
Certificates given for sanitary work executed under notices..	6
Do. and letters written with reference to meat seized ..	33
Stables without manure receptacles .. .. .	10
Do. with defective receptacles.. .. .	11
Do. with defective paving and means of drainage ..	19
Foul urinals .. .. .	2
Nuisances arising from decomposing rats .. .. .	3
Do. from fumes and smoke from brick kiln ..	—
Foul and uncovered drinking water cisterns .. .. .	2
Defective and leaky stove cisterns. .. .. .	3
Shore Nuisances .. .. .	1
Matters referred to other Departments .. .. .	218
Special reports made with regard to the sanitary condition of premises .. .. .	41
Miscellaneous defects . .. .	153
Nuisances arising from broken water pipes .. .. .	6
Do. from house basements flooded with sewage..	10
Private schools found overcrowded .. .. .	1

## Infectious Diseases.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE (NOTIFICATION) ACT, 1889.

596 cases of infectious disease have been notified during the past year. Enquiries were made immediately on receipt of the notification ; the sanitary arrangements and surrounding conditions have been carefully inspected and examined, and every possible enquiry made in order to ascertain, if possible, the source of infection. The milk supplies, schools attended, places of employment, and methods of isolation have

Procedure on  
notifications.

Intimations  
to School  
Authorities.

in each case been specially dealt with. Prompt intimation has, in 381 cases, been given to the head teachers of all schools where members of the household have been allowed to continue attendance without having previously obtained a medical certificate. Notification has also been forwarded to the various school attendance officers. 277 such intimations have been issued.

Intimations  
to Librarian.

The Librarian has also been advised as to the existence of infectious diseases at various parts of the district. All books belonging to the Free, and also the various Private Libraries, have been obtained from the occupiers of houses by the District Inspectors on their visits of enquiry following the notification of infectious disease thereat. These books have been subsequently carefully treated by means of *Formic Aldehyde* and then passed through an aeration chamber specially constructed for the purpose.

Disinfection  
of Library  
Books.

Sanitary  
conditions  
examined.

The drains and sanitary fittings of all houses at which cases of infectious disease have been notified are carefully examined and tested. In many cases the walls and ceilings of sick rooms have been stripped and cleaned in accordance with the Medical Certificate. Detailed reports in all cases have been forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health, and in all notified cases of infectious disease the house drains have been thoroughly flushed and disinfected. Where patients have been treated at home the drains have been repeatedly flushed and disinfected. Immediate intimation is given to the occupier of each house where cases are notified as to the existence of the disease and the measures to be adopted to prevent its spread. Disinfectants are supplied to those persons unable to purchase them.

Drains  
flushed.

Intimations  
to occupiers.

Disinfectants  
supplied.

Walls and  
ceilings dirty.

Where cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred, and the walls and ceilings of the sick room have been found at the time of the Inspector's visit to be in a dirty and dilapidated condition, notices have been served requiring stripping, cleansing, and lime-washing or re-papering. This is, of course, in addition to the ordinary disinfection of the room and contents by means of sulphurous acid gas.

In many cases the paper coverings have been removed from the walls of the infected apartments by our own men, and destroyed at

the Gorsey Lane Depôt, having been previously carefully disinfected by means of *Formic Aldehyde*.

The work of special flushing in connection with infectious disease is as referred to in that portion of the report dealing with the flushing of house drains and sanitary fittings. Special flushing.

In connection with the preparation of the new list of duties for the School Attendance Officers, I communicated with the Secretary of Education early in May as to the desirability of arrangements being made for those officers to co-operate with us in regard to any cases of suspicious sickness found at houses visited by them in the course of their ordinary duties. The matter was subsequently discussed by the Education Committee, and provision made for reporting by letter-card such cases. Co-operation of Education Department regarding cases of suspicious sickness.

It was ultimately decided to discontinue the giving of notes of intimation to headmasters and teachers of the various public schools, and to communicate direct with the Secretary of Education in connection with every infectious case, as soon as the officer has investigated and ascertained the name of the school attended either by the patient or by the children in the house. Intimations re infectious cases now sent to Education Department.

Several cases of Scarlatina having occurred at Granville Terrace, Wallasey, the whole of the drains attached to the houses in the neighbourhood were specially flushed and disinfected. Each house was visited, and directions for preventing the spread of infection were left with the tenant. In addition to this a copy of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, together with a supply of Disinfectants, both fluid and powder, was left with the occupiers. The whole of the ashpits in the immediate vicinity were also specially emptied and cleansed. Scarlatina cases, Granville Terrace. Precautions taken.

Some difficulty took place with regard to the removal to Hospital of one of the patients, a child aged three years. I subsequently interviewed the medical attendant, and also the parents, and pointed out the insufficient accommodation existing on the premises for the proper isolation of the patient. On my agreeing to accept all responsibility for charges, etc., during the time the patient was in Hospital, the parents allowed the case to be removed. Insufficient isolation of a patient. Removal to Hospital.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION ACT, 1890.

Insufficient isolation of fatal case.      A fatal case of Scarlet Fever having occurred in a house situate in Granville Terrace, Wallasey, it was deemed desirable (owing to the insufficient means for isolation) that the body be removed forthwith to the mortuary. The parents were approached with this end in view, and being persuaded of the necessity for such precautionary measures, consented to allow the body to be immediately removed to Mill Lane Mortuary. The room in which the corpse had lain was thoroughly disinfected, and the walls and ceilings stripped and cleansed.

Removal to mortuary.

Disinfection &c., effected.

## OFFENSIVE BEDDING, &amp;c., DESTROYED.

Objectionable bedding, &c., destroyed.      In connection with the enquiries made by the District Inspector following the notification of a case of Typhoid at a house in Brighton Place, the most insanitary conditions were found to exist with regard to bedding and clothing. Many of the articles had been soiled by the patient prior to removal to Mill Lane Hospital, and the remainder were found to be in such a filthy condition as to warrant their removal to Gorsey Lane Destructor Works, where they were burned. This case was subsequently dealt with under the special provisions of the Act dealing with the destruction of infected bedding and clothing.

Offensive mattress, &c., burned.

In connection with a sudden death from Heart Disease which occurred at a house in Parry Street, Seacombe, it was found that before the body could be interred, such objectionable conditions arose as to cause the straw mattress, &c., and also the floor of the room to become very offensive. At the request of the Medical Attendant the apartment was thoroughly disinfected after the interment, and the two mattresses on which the body had rested were taken to Mill Lane Hospital and there destroyed by burning. This case was also subsequently dealt with by your Committee under the Public Health Act.

## NOTIFICATIONS FROM PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

In all cases where notifications have been received from the Port Sanitary Authority as to persons having left infected vessels with the intention of proceeding to this district, prompt enquiries have been made at the address given. In each instance the persons named have been found at the time of visit, and subsequently, to be in good health, and in no case was infection contracted.

## Public Health Act, 1875.

### DISINFECTION.

The usual prompt measures have been adopted during the past year to prevent the spread of infectious disease by immediate removal and disinfection of infected articles, bedding, clothing, &c., to the Mill Lane Disinfecting Station. Disinfection has been immediately carried out on the removal of patients to Mill Lane Hospital, or, where cases have been isolated at home, on the receipt of an advice from the Medical Attendant.

Measures  
adopted.

### ORDINARY DISINFECTION.

The details of the work of Disinfection are as follow :—

Number of Rooms Disinfected .. .. .	496
Number of Beds and Mattrasses Disinfected..	554
Number of Articles, Bedding, Clothing, etc., Disinfected .. .. .	4,491

### SPECIAL DISINFECTION.

In many cases rooms have been disinfected with *Formic Aldehyde* gas by means of the Sanitary Formaldehyde Regenerator, and very satisfactory results obtained by the use of the apparatus. The objectionable sulphurous odour noticeable in rooms for so long after disinfection in the ordinary way does not exist when *Formic Aldehyde* is used for the purpose.

Disinfection  
by means of  
Regenerator.

At the request of the Medical Attendant, disinfection of rooms and clothing has followed in connection with many cases of Phthisis.

Disinfection  
after  
Phthisis.

Disinfection has also been carried out in connection with a furniture van used for the removal of furniture from a house at which cases of Scarlatina had occurred.

Disinfection  
of furniture  
van.

## Flushing of Drains.

### ORDINARY HOUSE-TO-HOUSE FLUSHING.

The flushing gangs have practically been kept at constant work throughout the year. The drains, etc., attached to each house erected in the district have been flushed at least twice within the past twelve

Systematic  
work of  
gangs.

Use of disinfectants. months. Disinfectants are freely used in connection with this work, especially during the summer months; the external sanitary fittings being thoroughly disinfected after completion of the ordinary flushing.

Defects noted by flushers. In 3,441 cases the drains have been found to be in a choked condition, and in 3,103 of these instances the obstructions were successfully dealt with by the flushers at the time of visitation. In the remaining cases the defects discovered have been referred to the District Inspectors, who subsequently visited the premises and issued the usual preliminary notices for the abatement of the nuisances.

Flushers' equipment. The men are provided with oilskins, boots, etc., and the equipment is kept well up to date.

The details as to the number of streets and houses visited, and the flushing of yard and w.c. drains in connection therewith, are as follow :

Number of streets visited .. .. .	2,594
„ houses „ .. .. .	35,446
„ yard w.c.'s flushed .. .. .	35,837
„ yard gullies „ .. .. .	85,478

#### SPECIAL FLUSHING IN CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Details of special flushing. The work of special flushing carried out at houses where cases of Infectious disease have been notified is as given below :—

Number of streets visited .. .. .	514
„ houses „ .. .. .	594
„ yard w.c.'s flushed .. .. .	594
„ yard gullies „ .. .. .	1,685

#### SPECIAL FLUSHING IN CONNECTION WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

A flushing gang is specially equipped and told off for visitation in connection with the Public and Private Schools throughout the District. In addition to the flushing carried out on these occasions, a

supply of disinfectants is left with the caretakers of the various schools. The details of the special work are as follow :—

Number of streets visited	..	..	..	872
„ premises „	..	..	..	1,350
„ w.c.'s flushed	..	..	..	2,260
„ gullies „	..	..	..	11,551

Our flushers have, on several occasions during the year, removed obstructions from the drains attached to the Tramway Dépôt, Sea View Road, Liscard, leaving the system clear and in good working order. It would appear that the drainage system attached to the Tramway Dépôt has not sufficient fall to keep the pipes free from deposit, and it is very desirable that something in the nature of an automatic flushing cistern be erected at the head of the main drain, so as to discharge a body of water at frequent intervals during the day.

On several occasions the flushers have successfully removed obstructions in connection with the drains attached to St. Paul's and Riverside Schools.

During the month of October, owing to the insufficiency of the water supply in connection with the property erected on the Gorse Hill, it was necessary to temporarily cease flushing operations in that particular neighbourhood. Since that date, however, the work has been commenced, and the drains, etc., have been thoroughly flushed and disinfected.

Tenders having been invited, a quantity of Disused Rubber Hose-pipe which had accumulated in my Store for the past two years has been disposed of for the sum of £4 10s. 8d.

## Food Inspection.

### LAIRAGE INSPECTION.

During the past year, 35,825 lbs. of Meat have been seized at the Wallasey and Alfred Lairages, and destroyed as unfit for human food, namely :—

Beef	..	..	..	..	..	2,055 lbs.
Mutton	.	..	..	..	..	3,280 „
Veal	..	..	..	..	..	4,845 „
Offal	..	..	..	..	..	25,645 „

Obstructions removed by flushers.

Flushing temporarily ceased at Gorse Hill.

Sale of disused rubber hose.

Details of Meat seized.

## SHOP VISITATION.

Shop  
Inspection.

The Butchers', Fish, and Poultry Shops have been visited once in each week, and the contents thereof examined. 2,300 lbs. of meat, etc., have been removed and destroyed in connection with this inspection.

In addition to these figures 2,300 lbs. of meat, etc., have been voluntarily given up by shopkeepers.

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSE INSPECTION.

Details.

830 visits have been paid to the various Private Slaughter-houses for the purpose of inspecting carcasses, and 2,055 lbs. of beef, and 115 lbs. of offal have been removed therefrom, for the purpose of being destroyed.

## INSPECTION OF HAWKERS' CARTS AND BASKETS.

815 examinations were made of the contents of hawkers' baskets and the food stuffs in each case found to be satisfactory.

Depositing  
Fish Offal.

In a number of cases the owners of fish carts have been cautioned as to depositing fish offal on the public highways.

## UNSOOUND VEGETABLES DESTROYED.

A quantity of unsound vegetables was discovered in a lock-up shop in the neighbourhood of Victoria Road, New Brighton. The removal of the deposit and the cleansing of the premises were subsequently carried out by the person who had recently occupied the premises.

**Local Government Act, 1894.**

## RENEWAL OF GAME LICENCES.

In the majority of cases applications have been received by your Committee from Poulterers, etc., in this district for a Licence to deal in Game. In connection with all applications received the usual enquiries have been made, and where it has been found that the Game Laws have been complied with, the Licence has been granted. In other instances the granting of the Licences has been deferred until the applicant has carried out the necessary work, and a report to that effect subsequently submitted to your Committee.

## Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts, 1885 and 1886.

### DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDERS.

Under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885, no person is allowed to carry on the trade of a cowkeeper unless he is duly registered by the Local Authority, and has provided for the sanitary state of all dairies and milkshops in his occupation, under a penalty of £5. Cowkeepers required to be registered.

In accordance with the Regulations made by the Council under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1886, 800 cubic feet of free air space is required for each cow. Proper and suitable means for lighting, ventilation, drainage, water supply, and the cleansing of the cowsheds, must be provided, and the lime-washing of roof and walls must be carried out during the months of May and October. Cubic space required for each cow.  
Sanitary provisions.

The same provisions apply in so far as refers to milkstores and milkshops, with an additional provision with respect to the giving of notice in the case of the existence of infectious disease to the Local Authority, and the cleansing of milk vessels. Milkshops and milkstores are required to be lime-whited or otherwise cleansed in the months of February, June and October. Regulations re Milkshops, &c.

There are now on the Register 19 cowkeepers and 88 dairymen and purveyors of milk, occupying in the aggregate 33 cowsheds and 91 dairies, milkshops and milkstores; 3 cowkeepers and 14 purveyors of milk have discontinued business during the year, and applications have been received for the registration of 11 cowkeepers, and 13 purveyors of milk. Registration.

In all cases of new Registrations, the premises proposed to be utilized have been visited, in order to see that they were suitable for the purpose intended.

657 visits have been paid to the various cowsheds, and 323 to the milkshops, milkstores, and dairies throughout the district, in order to Details of inspection.

ascertain whether the provisions of the above Act and Orders were being complied with respecting lighting, ventilation, air space, cleansing, drainage, water supply, precautions against infection, etc.

Periodical  
issue of  
Circulars.

Circulars have been periodically issued to all cowkeepers and purveyors of milk, reminding them of the Regulations respecting lime-washing, lighting, ventilation, cleansing, drainage, water supply, etc. In no case has it been found necessary to resort to legal proceedings to enforce the Regulations made by the Council under the Dairies and Cowsheds Order with respect to these trades.

#### COWSHED INSPECTION.

Registers  
submitted to  
Committee.

In accordance with the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885, the Registers of all persons carrying on the trade of a Dairyman, Cowkeeper, or Purveyor of Milk, have during the year been revised and submitted to your Committee.

#### OVERCROWDING OF COWSHEDS.

One cow  
in excess.

On visiting a cowshed at one of the farms in Liscard, four cows were found in a shed, the cubical capacity of which was sufficient for three animals only. The case was duly reported to your Committee, who authorized the service of the usual notice. The animals were subsequently reduced to the number allowed under the Bye-laws.

Over-  
crowding  
abated.

Four cows  
in excess.

On inspecting certain cowsheds at Mount Pleasant Road, Liscard, four animals were found in excess of the number allowed to be kept under the Council's Regulations. In this case the usual notice was issued under the Dairies and Cowsheds Order, and the animals were reduced to nine, the number allowed to be kept under the Regulations.

Over-  
crowding  
abated.

Tubercular  
cow.

In passing through a certain field, west of St. Hilary Brow, Wallasey, Inspector Scott discovered a cow in a very poor condition. On the following day he again visited the field, with the object of obtaining a sample of milk, but owing to the state of the animal this was unobtainable. He subsequently saw the owner, who informed him that the cow had not given any milk for about ten months, and that it had been placed out to pasture for the purpose of fattening. The Inspector advised him that the animal was suffering from

Tuberculosis, and recommended immediate slaughtering. The animal was subsequently slaughtered, and the carcass was found to be in an advanced tubercular condition. The whole of the carcass and offal were therefore removed and destroyed. As the animal had been kept in a field, entirely separate from the other cows, there did not appear to have been any contravention of Section 35 of the Wallasey Improvement Act, 1901. Your Committee therefore, decided that in this case no legal proceedings should be taken against the owner, but that in lieu thereof, a strongly worded letter should be sent to him warning him against any further offence against the Act in question.

Animal  
slaughtered.

Legal  
proceedings  
unnecessary.

### Offensive Trades and Knackers' Yards.

The Knackering and other premises in the neighbourhood of Have-lock Street, Seacombe, have been kept under constant supervision during the year. The usual lime-washing and cleansing have been carried out in a satisfactory manner. The floor of the slaughter-house has been entirely re-laid with cement concrete. A large grease and intercepting trap has been built external to the Works. In this way, all fatty matter which originally entered the sewers is now retained and removed from the interceptor periodically. The main drain from the Works having become choked with grease during the year, it was subsequently taken up and re-laid.

Knackering  
premises  
frequently  
inspected.

During the year an application was made to your Committee for permission to establish an offensive trade in the neighbourhood of Wheatland Lane, Seacombe. As your Committee were, on my report, satisfied as to the unsuitability of the site, it was decided not to grant the licence asked for.

Unsuccessful  
application  
for licence.

Steps have been taken to prevent the carrying on of an objectionable trade at No. 7, Burnaby Street, Egremont. These premises were used for some few days for the manufacture of artificial manure, but owing to the action of this Department, are now closed against further use for the above purpose.

Offensive  
trade  
prohibited.

## Sub-Let House Inspection.

Require-  
ments  
under the  
Council's  
Bye-laws.

Under the Bye-laws made by the Council with respect to houses let in lodgings, or occupied by members of more than one family, the occupier of the premises is not permitted to allow a greater number of persons to inhabit a room for living or sleeping purposes exclusively than will admit of the provision of 300 cubic feet of free air space for each person above the age of 10 years, and in the case of an apartment used for living and sleeping purposes, than will admit of the provision of 400 cubic feet of free air space for each person so occupying. Special provision is also made for ventilation, adequate sanitary arrangements and the weekly washing of floors, passages and staircases. In the month of May in each year, the walls, rooms and passages have to be thoroughly lime-washed.

There are 54 duly registered sub-let houses.

Particular attention has been given to the sub-let houses situated in Havelock Street and Brighton Place, Seacombe, as this class of dwelling needs what may be practically termed constant supervision.

Eleven houses have been removed from the Register, as they are now no longer used for sub-let purposes.

Nineteen houses have been added to the Register, as the manner in which the respective premises are now utilized has brought them within the scope of the Bye-laws.

During the year 710 visits have been paid, in order to see that the premises were conducted in a proper manner and as required under the Regulations.

Midnight  
Inspections.

Several midnight inspections have been made in connection with houses occupied by members of more than one family, and in consequence coming under the operation of the Council's Bye-laws made with respect to sub-let premises. Practically, there was no overcrowding found to exist at the times of inspection.

No Over-  
crowding.

Notices *re*  
cleansing.

In several cases it has been found necessary to issue notices for the cleansing and lime-washing of houses and sub-let apartments. In each instance the work required has been carried out.

## Insanitary Property.

### 3, CHURCH LANE.

In accordance with the instructions of your Committee, I have during the year, in company with the Medical Officer of Health, visited certain insanitary cottages off Church Lane, Egremont. On inspection it was found that the walls of the lower apartments were in a very damp condition. The small yard adjoining was found paved with ordinary bricks, and without proper joints. The ashpit was in an offensive condition, badly situated, in close proximity to the property, and the convenience was without water for flushing purposes. A considerable waste of water had taken place, and to a great extent accounted for the damp condition of the house walls. The Medical Officer of Health subsequently certified the premises as unfit for human habitation. As the usual preliminary notices had been served on the owner to remedy the insanitary conditions, I interviewed him personally with regard to the matter, when he promised to carry out the necessary work, provided the cottages were vacated by the present tenants who were then owing him a considerable amount of rent. The occupiers subsequently vacated the premises, and the owner completed the works required in accordance with the notices that had been issued.

Damp walls.

Yard paved with bricks.

Offensive ashpit.

Convenience without water.

Premises certified unfit.

Notices issued.

Tenants vacate.

Works completed by Owner.

### 25, MERSEY STREET.

With regard to the certificates given by the Medical Officer of Health as to the unfitness for human habitation of the houses Nos. 15 to 25, Mersey Street, as before reported to your Committee, the house No. 25 was practically re-arranged, and additional sanitary conveniences provided. The whole of the houses, with the exception of No. 25, were found still unoccupied, but in the latter case the premises had been re-let. I subsequently interviewed the agents with regard to this matter, and they pointed out that, as in this case there was one convenience provided for the exclusive use of the tenant, the ground of objection to occupancy of the adjoining houses did not therefore exist in this case. Your Committee decided to serve the Statutory Notices under the Housing of the Working Classes Act. This was done, and within a reasonable time the tenant was removed, and the premises have been closed against further occupation.

15 to 25 closed.

No. 25 found re-let.

Notice served

Premises now closed.

## 10, THOMAS' BUILDINGS.

Walls damp  
and defective.

Medical  
Officer's  
Certificate.

Works in  
progress.

On visiting the house No. 10, Thomas' Buildings, Seacombe, the walls were discovered to be in such a damp and defective condition as to render the house unfit for human habitation. The case was referred to the Medical Officer of Health, who subsequently visited the premises and issued the usual certificate under the Housing of the Working Classes Act. The tenant vacated the house, and the owner is now engaged in carrying out certain works to remedy insanitary conditions.

## BRIGHTON PLACE.

Special  
report *re*  
sanitary  
condition of  
Brighton  
Place.

In accordance with the instructions received from your Committee, I have during the year submitted a Special Report in connection with the insanitary condition of Brighton Place, Seacombe. This property is visited by the District Sanitary Officer almost every other day, and during the Smallpox epidemic in 1902 the officer spent a considerable amount of time there daily. Notices had been issued on the respective owners from time to time in connection with all defective sanitary fittings found to exist at the houses on the occasion of the officer's inspection.

In addition to this, notices have also been served on the owners for cleansing and repairing the interior of the houses. In many cases, owing to the occupier's habits being of such an objectionable description it would be impossible to tell after a few weeks' occupation that the apartments had been cleansed in accordance with the requirements of this Department. Every possible power has been utilized in the matter of remedying insanitary conditions. The owners on their part have practically complied with not only the requirements of my notices, but personal requests made at the time the contractors have been engaged on the property.

The unsightly conditions obtaining in connection with the land at the front of the houses, and originally used as gardens, unfortunately still exist. The owner of the houses on the left side of the court, viz., Nos. 1 to 5, offered to hand over to the Council the whole of the area at the front of his houses, provided the necessary asphaltting was carried out at the expense of the Council, and the surfaces so dealt with

subsequently adopted. The Agents of the property on the right side of the Court are simply Receivers for the Court of Chancery, and are therefore, not in a position to hand over to the Council the unflagged portions opposite the three remaining cottages. They, however, suggested that, if the Council would pave the area, subsequently relying on the Court for permanent possession, they were of opinion their action would be subsequently confirmed. There have been so many legal difficulties in the way that it has not been found possible to comply with either suggestion.

#### STAFFORD BUILDINGS, WITHENS LANE.

Several defects have been discovered to exist in connection with the flushing arrangements attached to the conveniences at Stafford Buildings. These defective conditions have been remedied, following the service of the usual notice. Defects remedied.

#### INSPECTION OF SANITARY CONVENIENCES USED IN COMMON.

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, 2,321 visits have been paid with respect to all sanitary conveniences used in common by the occupiers of two or more separate dwellings or by other persons. In many instances it has been found necessary to issue Preliminary Notices to carry out the cleansing required. The localities of these particular conveniences are as under:—

Nos. 15 to 25, Mersey Street .....	6 w.-cs.
No. 35, Mersey Street .....	1 w.-c.
Nos. 41 and 43, Mersey Street .....	2 w.-cs.
Nos. 1 to 4, Higher Seacombe (trough closets) ..	2 w.-cs.
May Place, Seacombe .....	3 w.-cs.
Hawthorn Cottages, Seacombe .....	3 w.-cs.
Back Willow Cottages, Church Road, Seacombe..	2 w.-cs.
Oakdale Yard, Seacombe .....	6 w.-cs.
Creek Side, Dock Road, Seacombe .....	3 w.-cs.
Union Court, Union Street .....	1 w.-c.
Nos. 27 to 43, and 45 to 51, Burnaby Street ....	13 w.-cs.
Stafford Buildings, Withens Lane (trough closet) .	4 w.-cs.
Model Farm Cottages, Mill Lane .....	2 w.-cs.

Field Cottages, Liscard .....	5 w.-cs.
Hope Place, Wallasey Road .....	2 w.-cs.
Robinson's Cottages, Folly Lane .....	2 w.-cs.
Mason's Cottages, Wallasey Village .....	4 w.-cs.
Mission Hall Cottages, Wallasey Village .....	1 w.-c.
Black Horse Cottage, Wallasey Village.....	1 w.-c.
Wood Lane, Cottages off .....	1 privy.
Elm Grove, Mount Pleasant Road.....	1 w.-c.
Albert Terrace, Mount Pleasant Road .....	2 w.-cs.
Marine Parade, Birkenhead Road .....	6 w.-cs.

## **Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885.**

### TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS USED FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

During the past twelve months, 51 caravans situated in various parts of the district have been inspected. These vans have been found to be kept in a cleanly condition. No case of infectious disease has occurred amongst any of the inmates, and practically, there has been very little to which objection could be raised by the officers of this Department.

A number of Gypsies, with six caravans and a tent, were encamped for a considerable time on certain land to the south of Poulton Road, Poulton. Until their removal from the district the caravans and tent were kept under close observation, and frequently visited. Generally, the conditions were found to be satisfactory.

## **Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.**

### INSPECTION OF CAB DRIVERS' SHELTERS.

During the year these shelters have been kept under observation, and in many instances the men have been requested to keep the same in a cleanly condition.

## Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

### INSPECTION OF WORKSHOPS.

There are at present on the Register 184 Workshops. During the year there have been added 18 new Workshops, and seven have been discontinued.

279 visits of inspection have been made, and it has been found necessary to issue some 23 preliminary notices in respect of the following matters :—

For structural defects .....	8 notices.
„ additional ventilation .....	5 „
„ cleansing of Walls and Ceilings ...	10 „

No case of overcrowding has been found to exist.

In four instances, owing to the introduction of motive power, the premises come under the direct supervision of the Government Inspector, and intimations of such change in the nature of the workshops have been duly forwarded.

Eight intimations have been received during the year from other Authorities with respect to persons residing in this district who are engaged as outworkers. The sanitary arrangements of the premises have been carefully enquired into, and where defective conditions have been found to exist, the usual notices have been issued. In the majority of cases dealt with in this way, it was found that the persons referred to merely brought work to their own home for execution.

In one case it was found necessary to issue notice for the stripping and cleaning of the whole of the premises.

60 of the Workshops on the Register, in which female labour is employed, have been visited by the Female Sanitary Inspector. These Workshops comprise 77 workrooms, 73 of which were found in a clean condition at the time of inspection. The remaining four were discovered to be somewhat dirty, for which notices to clean were subsequently issued. No case of female overcrowding was discovered

Where the requisite notices have not been exhibited in the work-rooms, intimations have been sent to His Majesty's Inspector in accordance with the requirements of the Factory Act. Intimations have also been received from that official with regard to insufficient accommodation in Factories within this district.

Insufficient lavatory accommodation.

An intimation having been received from His Majesty's Factory Inspector as to the insufficiency of the lavatory accommodation provided at the Gandy Belt Manufacturing Company's Works, Wheatland Lane, Seacombe, an examination of the premises was made. The Company were subsequently notified that certain works were necessary, more especially in connection with the separation and ventilation of that portion of the factory allotted for sanitary purposes. After a considerable amount of delay and much correspondence plans of the proposed alterations were submitted. These were subsequently amended and approved, in accordance with the Department's requirements, and the works are now in progress. Mechanical means, by special fans, will be provided in connection with the ventilation of each lavatory apartment.

Intimation re works necessary.

Plans submitted.

Works in progress.

Communication from Laundry Association.

A communication was received during the year from the Liverpool, Birkenhead and District Laundry Association, complaining of the insanitary condition and non-registration of many of the laundry premises situate in this district. At this time there were some 25 laundries duly registered under the Factory and Workshops Act in the books of this Department. They were frequently visited by the Workshop Inspector, and wherever insanitary conditions were found to exist, the usual notices were issued immediately following the Visiting Officer's inspection.

Notices have also been served with regard to cleansing and lime-washing. The whole of these notices, together with those issued with respect to the ventilation of the rooms in which laundry work was being carried on, had also been complied with.

The only premises not then visited by the Workshop Inspector were those laundries which did not come within the definition of a Workshop, and which are practically Factories, within the meaning of the Act. In those cases where laundry work is done by members of

the same family, dwelling on the premises, with the assistance of not more than two persons from outside, a special Register is kept. These premises are occasionally visited with regard to sanitary condition, although they do not come strictly within the definition of a Workshop under the Factory Act.

#### BAKEHOUSES.

There are some 56 Bakehouses, including Confectionery producers, in addition to the premises situate underground, and occupied for a similar purpose.

These premises have been frequently visited and supervised during the past year. In connection with Statutory requirements respecting periodic cleaning, it has only been found necessary in a few cases to give verbal intimation or the usual preliminary notice.

#### UNDERGROUND BAKEHOUSES.

During the early part of the year an inspection was made of the whole of the underground bakehouses situated in this district. A tabulated list was prepared and forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health. Under the provisions of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, it would appear that no underground bakehouse can now be used for the purpose of baking bread unless it was in use on the 17th of August of that year. In addition to this, apparently no underground bakehouse, although in use at that time, can be so used after the 1st of January, 1904, unless the Council are satisfied that it is suitable for the purpose in regard to construction, light and ventilation, and in every other respect. Any premises used for bread baking purposes, which have the surface of the floor more than three feet below the level of the adjoining ground, are to be taken as underground bakehouses under this Act.

When the premises have been made suitable in so far as refers to general sanitary condition, light, ventilation, etc., the occupier is entitled to a certificate to that effect from the Local Authority.

There are some 27 underground bakehouses situated in this district, to which 140 visits have been paid during the past year. At the

Inspection of all underground bakehouses in the district.

Definition of underground bakehouse.

Certificate granted where premises suitable.

Number of underground bakehouses.

present time they are being visited as duly registered workshops under the early Factory and Workshops Acts dealing with the sanitary inspection of bakehouses generally.

### **Petroleum Acts, 1871, 1879, 1881.**

Licences to store Motor-car Spirit.

Several applications have been received during the year for permission to store Motor-car Spirit at various premises situated within the district. Each application has been specially enquired into, and when suitable accommodation for storage has been provided, in accordance with the suggestions made at the time of visiting the premises, a report to that effect has been submitted to your Committee. The construction of the stores has been carried out practically on the same lines as adopted in other districts where Petrol is stored, and in each case your Committee has subsequently granted the licence subject to strict compliance with the conditions enumerated in the report submitted in connection with each application. The premises on which Motor-car Spirit is stored are frequently visited during the year.

Conditions of storage.

Petrol is not allowed to be kept by any person in this district unless in a metal vessel substantially constructed so as to prevent the escape of liquid or vapour. Each vessel has to bear the words "Petrol, Highly Inflammable," together with the full name and address of the owner legibly stamped or marked thereon, or on a metallic or enamelled label attached thereto. No such vessel must exceed a capacity of one gallon. Before any repairs are executed special precautions have to be taken in connection with the emptying and cleansing of all such vessels, of both spirit and vapour. The shed used for storing purposes has to be entirely separate and distinct from a Workshop or any other building, and is to be well ventilated. Not more than 60 gallons is allowed to be stored at any one time, unless under special arrangement with the Local Authority. No artificial light whatever is to be used in connection with the opening or filling of vessels. No unauthorized person is to be allowed access to either the store or the vessels in which the Spirit is kept.

In one case, intimation has been given as to the storage of Petrol in accordance with the Orders of 1900, made under the "Locomotives on Highways Act, 1896."

An application has been received from the Gandy Belt Manufacturing Company for a licence to store 240 gallons of Benzine on certain land adjoining their premises in Wheatland Lane, Seacombe. The site was inspected, and the necessary storage accommodation having been provided, the licence in this case was granted.

Application  
for licence to  
store  $\frac{1}{2}$   
Benzine.

## Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD REGULATIONS.

In accordance with the circular letter received from the Secretary of the Local Government Board, I have the honour to lay before your Committee my Fourteenth Annual Report with regard to the measures adopted during the past year to give effect to the provisions of the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, and the Regulations of the Local Government Board made thereunder.

Three Inspectors devote part of their time to the duties in connection with the inspection of canal boats, and for this purpose frequent visits have been paid to the Great Float (North Side) and the Wallasey and Alfred Docks and entrances.

320 canal boats have been boarded and examined during the year ending 31st December, 1903, this number representing a substantial increase over that recorded last year, viz., 231, which also showed a slight increase in the inspections made during the preceding year of 1901.

The general cleanliness of the boats has been well maintained, the strict and systematic supervision exercised over the past few years being responsible in a large measure for this satisfactory condition.

In 26 cases the boats did not comply with the Canal Boats Acts and Local Government Regulations made thereunder, and notices were served in each instance requiring the execution of the necessary remedial works.—

- (a) In one case only the boat was found to be not duly registered.
- (b) In no instance was a notification of change of master received.

- (c) In 8 cases the master of the boat failed to produce a certificate of registration.
- (d) In 14 cases the boats were not properly lettered, marked and numbered.
- (e & f) No instances of overcrowding have been discovered, each boat generally carrying two men only.
- (g) The boats have generally been found in a fairly clean condition.
- (h) In no case was a boat found insufficiently ventilated.
- (i) In 5 cases it was found that the painted surfaces in connection with the interior of the cabin had not been thoroughly renewed for a period of three years.
- (j) In no case was it found that a water cask had not been provided.
- (k) So far as could be ascertained at the time of inspection, bilge water is removed every 24 hours.
- (l) No case of infectious disease, so far as could be ascertained, has occurred on any of the boats inspected.
- (m) In no case was the Inspector obstructed.
- (n) The owner's name and address were found to have been properly entered on the certificate in each case where the certificate was produced.
- (o) In no instance was it found that the sleeping berths were unprotected from dirt and weather.
- (p) In no case has it been found necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

In those cases where defects have been discovered and notices served to remedy, a detailed report of the contraventions has been submitted to your Committee. Following this report, a decision to institute legal proceedings was come to, in the event of the certificate attached to the complaint note not being returned within a reasonable time.

Where owners have failed to return the certificate within the time specified, an intimation has been sent drawing the owner's attention to his neglect to comply with the Acts, and further intimating that the proceedings authorized by your Committee would be commenced failing the prompt return of the certificate.

A considerable amount of correspondence has of necessity passed between the owners of canal boats and myself during the past year with regard to the notices issued by this Department. In every instance, however, I have been successful in securing owner's compliance with the Acts and Regulations.

It will be satisfactory to know that His Majesty's Canal Boat Inspector—Mr. Owen J. Llewellyn—visited the Department on the 29th of January (1904) and examined the various books, notices and correspondence in connection with the work required to be carried out by the Local Authority under the Canal Boats Acts and Local Government Board Regulations made thereunder. After completing his examination of the books, etc., Mr. Llewellyn expressed his satisfaction at the manner in which the work of inspection had been carried out and the records kept.

Visit of H.M.  
Canal Boat  
Inspector.

It is interesting to note in connection with the report just issued by the Local Government Board for 1902-3 with respect to the administration of the Canal Boats Acts in various parts of England, that this district stands 23rd on the list of, practically, 40 of the largest towns having made the greatest number of inspections during the 12 months.

Wallasey  
inspections  
compare  
favourably  
with other  
large towns.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. BASCOMBE, Assoc. San. Inst.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

*February, 1904.*

