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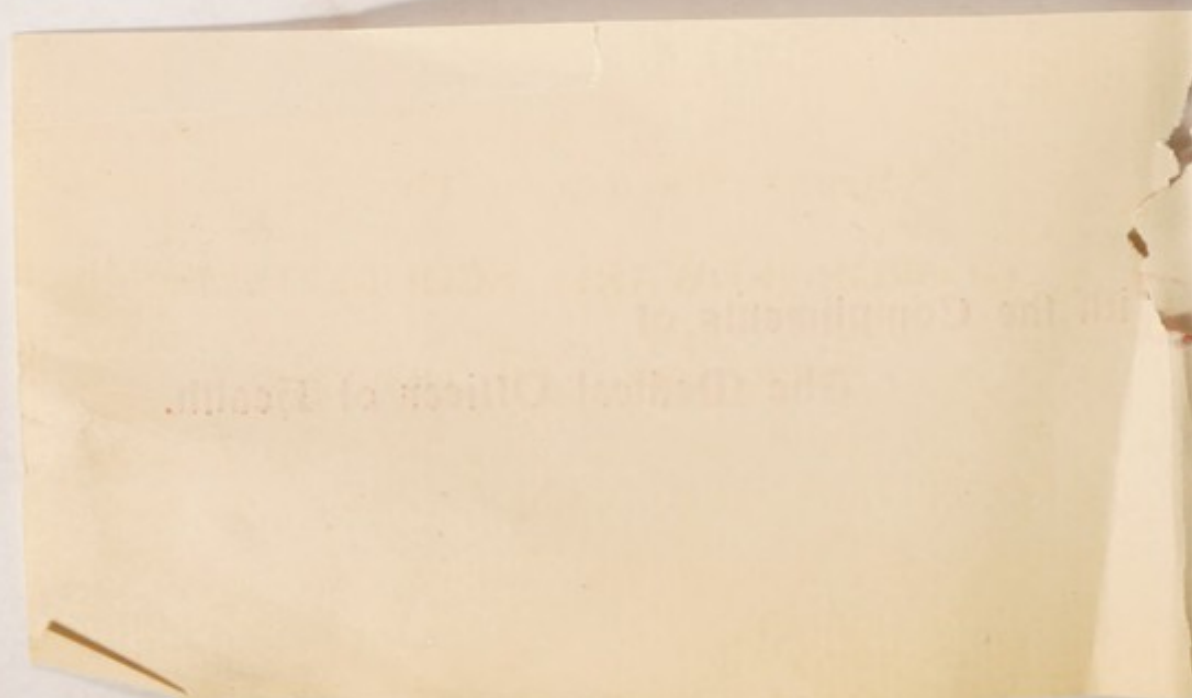
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The Medical Officer of Health.



West Lancashire Rural District
... Council. ...

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE

Year 1903.

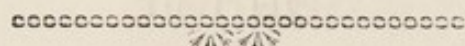
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GEORGE EDWARD SCHOLEFIELD,

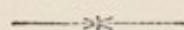
M.D., EDIN., D.P.H., VICT.

West Lancashire Rural District Council

1903.




Chairman	...	...	HENRY UNDERWOOD.
Vice-Chairman	...	...	GEO. FRED. GREAVES.



Ainsdale	...	...	GEO. FRED. GREAVES.
Altcar	..	...	REV. W. Warburton.
Aughton	...	...	HENRY UNDERWOOD.
"	...	...	JAS. M. WOODS.
Bickerstaffe	...	...	SAMUEL T. ROSBOTHAM (resigned)
"	...	...	JAMES STOCKLEY.
"	...	..	JOHN A. BIRCHALL.
Bispham	...	...	LAWRENCE ASHCROFT.
Downholland	...	...	JOB SUMNER.
Formby	...	...	EDWARD SUTTON.
"	...	...	THOS. RIMMER (deceased)
Halsall	...	...	RICHARD ASPINWALL (deceased)
"	...	...	JOHN HARRISON.
Hesketh	.	...	WILLIAM COOKSON.
Lydiat	...	...	THOMAS SHAW.
Maghull	...	...	JOHN PIMBLEY.
North Meols	...	...	JOSHUA CROPPER.
Rufford	...	...	RICHARD YATES.
Scarisbrick	...	...	EVAN HEATON.
"	...	...	HENRY HOLMAN.
Simonswood	...	...	JOHN HESKETH.
Tarleton	...	...	HENRY ALTY.

ERRATA.

For North Meols, JOSHUA CROPPER, *read*
Melling, JOSHUA CROPPER; and North
Meols, HENRY BALL.



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Annual Report for 1903.



To the Chairman and Members of the West
Lancashire Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Sixth Annual Report, which deals with the Vital Statistics, the Public Health, and the Sanitary Work of the District during the year 1903.

Changes have taken place in the Council during the year. Mr. Samuel T. Rosbotham resigning, and Mr. John A. Birchall being elected in his place. The services of Mr. Richard Aspinwall, of Halsall, were lost on account of his death, and Mr. John Harrison was elected. Mr. Thomas Rimmer, of Formby, also died in November, his seat being left vacant.

No new scheme of great magnitude has been brought forward, but events have taken place which will considerably affect the district in the future.

On April 4th, a communication was received from the Local Government Board, formally approving of the scheme for the sewerage of the township of Formby, and giving permission to borrow £41,000 for the purpose of carrying out that scheme.

The scheme set forth at an inquiry held in November, 1902, for sewerage of the township of Ainsdale, was referred back by the Local Government Board to be amended in certain particulars. The matter, however, was left in abeyance, owing to a proposal that the township should be amalgamated with the adjoining district of Birkdale. The Parliamentary Committee of the County

Council held an inquiry, at Birkdale, on November 12th, after which the Chairman intimated that it was the intention of the Committee to advise the County Council to grant the petition. If this is confirmed, the sewerage of the township will be undertaken by the Urban District Council of Birkdale.

Population.—This is estimated to the middle of the year, the basis being the number of Inhabited Houses, which the Assistant Overseers kindly furnish me with.

The number of Inhabited Houses, as supplied to me, was 5,453, being an increase of 21 over the previous year. Ainsdale had 15 more, Formby 29, Halsall 12, Hesketh 8, Melling 2, and North Meols 10; while Altcar had 1 less, Aughton 10, Bickerstaffe 4, Bispham 3, Downholland 1, Lydiat 4, Scarisbrick 12, Simonswood 1, and Tarleton 19; Maghull and Rufford each had the same number. From these figures I estimate that the Population at the middle of the year was 27,488, including 474 in the various institutions.

Birth Rate.—Six hundred and six Births were registered in the District during the year, 316 boys and 290 girls; to this number must be added 6 which occurred in Ormskirk Workhouse, giving a total of 612, of which 318 were boys and 294 were girls. These 612 Births are equal to an Annual Birth-rate of 22·26 per 1,000 of the population living, which is 1·13 below that for 1902, and 4·19 below the average of the 10 preceding years. Twenty of these Births were illegitimate, being 3·2 per cent. of the whole number.

Death Rate.—The Deaths registered as having occurred in the District during the year were 345, of which number 169 were males, and 176 females. To this number must be added those of 18 belonging to the District, which occurred in Ormskirk Workhouse, and 5 which took place in Liverpool Institutions; while the deaths of 9 persons in the Southport Borough Isolation Hospital, situated in North Meols; 5 in the Manor House Epileptic Homes, Maghull; 4 in the Shaftesbury House Asylum, Formby;

and 1 in the Liverpool Union Convalescent Home, Maghull, must be deducted. This gives a net total of 349 deaths belonging to the District, 169 being males, and 180 females, the resulting **Annual Death-rate** being 12·69 per 1,000 of the population living. This is 1·17 below that for 1902, and 2·19 below the average of the 10 preceding years.

Epidemic Death Rate.—Twenty-three deaths were due to the seven principal Epidemic Diseases as follows:—Smallpox 2, Diphtheria 2, Enteric Fever 7, Measles 2, Whooping Cough 4, Epidemic Diarrhœa 6. This gives an **Epidemic Death-rate** of ·83 per 1,000, which is ·22 less than that for 1902, and ·36 less than the average of the 10 preceding years.

Infantile Mortality.—The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age was 60, equal to an **Infantile Mortality-rate** of 98 per 1,000 **Births**, which is less than that of 129 for the previous year, and 27 less than the average of the 10 preceding years.

The following Table compares the foregoing rates with those for England and Wales, and with some of those for the Administrative County of Lancaster.

DEATHS AND OTHER RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES,
LANCASHIRE, AND THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 living.	Death-rate per 1,000 living.	Epidemic Death-rate per 1,000 living.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	28·4	15·4	1·46	132
Rural England & Wales	27·3	14·8	1·08	118
Lancashire .....	...	15·3	1·27*	...
Urban Lancashire .....	...	15·5	...	...
Rural Lancashire .....	...	13·9	...	...
West Lancashire Rural District	22·26	12·69	·83	98

* Excluding deaths from Diarrhœa, which are included in the other Epidemic Death-rates.

VITAL AND OTHER STATISTICS OF THE TOWNSHIPS COMPRISED IN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.

1903.	Acreage.	Population estimated to middle of 1903.	Number of Inhabited Houses 1903.	Public Houses & Beerhouses.	Birth-Rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Death-Rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Epidemic Dth-rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Infant Mortality per 1000 Births.	Average of previous ten years.
AINSDALE.....	1,192	1,419	331	1	21.98	24.77	16.21	15.08	1.36	.78	129	101
ALTAR.....	4,083	534	91	1	11.23	26.93	7.49	13.02	1.87	.78	166	105
AUGHTON.....	4,610	3,636	723	13	25.85	25.68	9.35	15.65	.57	1.37	42	131
BICKERSTAFFE.....	6,444	2,075	374	1	26.98	32.41	12.53	16.74	.48	1.51	35	119
BISPHAM.....	926	328	59	2	2.95	18.53	14.79	16.20	—	—	—	86
DOWNHOLLAND.....	3,473	702	134	4	18.51	28.88	14.24	12.80	—	1.52	154	136
FORMBY.....	5,427	5,906	1,107	9	18.62	23.70	10.83	12.58	.16	1.24	91	104
HALSALL.....	6,995	1,320	263	2	23.48	29.44	15.90	16.00	.76	1.05	64	153
HESKETH.....	4,736	959	210	2	22.94	33.69	10.42	17.27	1.04	1.70	91	139
LYDIATE.....	1,995	1,042	214	3	34.54	26.28	20.15	18.59	.95	1.68	139	149
MAGHULL.....	2,098	1,537	283	10	15.60	22.67	14.96	13.89	2.60	.85	166	177
MELLING.....	2,118	941	193	4	28.69	27.26	15.92	18.55	2.12	1.15	111	154
NORTH MEOLS.....	4,372	1,905	402	1	25.19	33.91	16.28	15.86	1.57	1.56	166	134
RUFFORD.....	3,120	780	160	2	19.23	23.12	11.53	17.22	1.28	1.65	133	190
SCARISBRICK.....	8,397	2,157	434	5	19.47	23.36	9.73	12.38	—	.99	71	102
SIMONSWOOD.....	2,645	358	63	2	22.34	23.03	5.59	16.44	—	2.45	125	175
TARLETON.....	5,553	1,879	412	3	25.54	27.70	13.30	14.04	1.59	1.21	125	107
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.....	68,184	27,488	5,453	65	22.26	26.45	12.69	14.88	.83	1.19	98	125

N. B.—The estimated populations are calculated upon the number of Inhabited Houses.

Table showing the number of Houses in each Township and the District known to be Infected during the year, and the numbers of Cases and Deaths.

1903.	TOWNSHIP.	Smallpox.			Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.			Enteric Fever.			Measles.			Whooping Cough.			Epidemic Diarrhoea.			Erysipelas.			Puerperal Fever.			Totals.		
		H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.			
	AINSDALE.....				4	5		3	3		2	2	1	41	64		1	1	1									51	75	2	
	ALTAR.....	1	7					1	3																			3	11	1	
	AUGHTON.....				8	14		1	1		2	3		6	13		1	1	1									22	36	4	
	BICKERSTAFFE.....	1	1		2	2					2	4	1															5	7	1	
	BISPHAM.....							1	3																			2	4		
	DOWNHOLLAND.....							1	1																			1	1		
	FORMBY.....				3	3		2	3					81	119	1												90	130	1	
	HALSALL.....				1	1					1	1		6	9		6	7		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17	21	1	
	HESKETH.....				1	1		2	3																			3	4	1	
	LYDIATE.....							1	1											1	1	1						3	3	2	
	MAGHULL.....	2	4	1	12	17					3	3	1							2	2	2						19	26	4	
	MELLING.....	2	2		3	3					1	1	1							1	1	1						7	7	2	
	NORTH MEOLS.....				2	2					2	2		27	57	1	5	7	2									36	68	3	
	RUFFORD.....										3	4	1															4	5	1	
	SCARISBRICK.....				1	1		2	2																			3	3		
	SIMONSWOOD.....				1	2																						1	2		
	TARLETON.....	1	1	1	3	3		1	3		3	6	2															8	13	5	
	ST. ANNE'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, FORMBY																														
	WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.....	7	15	2	41	54		15	23	2	19	26	7	161	262	2	13	16	4	6	6	6	9	10	4	4	3	275	416	26	

Table showing the number of Cases of Infectious Disease which came to the knowledge of the Sanitary Authority during the years 1885 to 1903, and also the numbers of Houses infected and the Deaths that occurred.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.												NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.																					
Smallpox.			Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Croup.			Fever-Typhus, Enteric, and Continued.			Erysipelas.			Puerperal Fever.			Totals.			Measles.			Whooping Cough.			Diarrhoea and Dysentery.			Totals.			
H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	H.	C.	D.	
1885.....	...	...	22	49	5	23	29	17	16	26	10	3	3	3	1	1	1	65	108	36	20	53	4	52	103	10	3	3	3	75	159	17
1886.....	...	...	36	62	5	9	9	8	6	8	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	53	81	18	229	495	7	48	118	7	1	1	1	278	614	15
1887.....	1	1	66	172	9	15	16	9	8	11	2	...	...	...	2	2	2	92	202	22	251	578	8	5	7	2	...	...	...	256	585	10
1888.....	1	2	20	31	4	18	22	10	12	16	4	1	1	...	1	1	1	53	73	20	26	68	1	28	61	7	1	1	...	54	130	8	
1889.....	...	...	24	39	4	16	21	13	9	11	4	5	5	5	...	...	...	54	76	26	59	124	4	72	171	11	...	...	...	131	295	15
The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, came into force in the District on January 1st, 1890.																																	
1890.....	...	...	46	89	2	32	51	18	10	10	2	6	6	1	...	...	...	94	156	23	355	879	20	27	64	3	3	3	3	385	946	26
1891.....	...	...	41	84	5	20	25	6	15	18	6	6	6	1	1	1	...	86	134	18	5	13	...	48	114	7	5	5	5	58	132	12
1892.....	...	...	48	82	3	1	1	...	17	23	4	10	11	...	4	4	4	80	121	11	4	17	2	14	19	2	4	4	4	22	40	8
1893.....	5	10	81	161	8	14	15	6	47	56	8	17	18	3	3	3	2	167	263	27	122	211	4	4	7	1	14	15	15	140	233	20	
1894.....	1	1	79	146	11	27	33	4	33	46	6	11	11	...	1	1	...	152	238	21	202	436	8	54	98	7	5	5	5	261	539	20	
1895.....	...	...	98	176	4	28	41	11	24	25	8	13	13	3	5	5	3	168	260	29	88	160	5	15	21	4	9	9	9	112	190	18
1896.....	...	...	105	198	4	15	16	2	19	21	4	10	10	1	2	2	...	151	247	11	73	148	2	60	123	4	3	3	3	136	274	9
1897.....	...	...	83	157	7	15	19	1	19	21	2	9	9	...	2	2	...	128	208	10	210	395	5	123	210	13	6	7	7	340	614	25
1898.....	...	...	41	73	1	17	18	5	24	28	6	12	12	2	1	1	1	95	132	15	57	101	5	9	16	6	12	12	12	78	129	23
1899.....	...	...	28	71	...	24	31	4	22	26	1	13	13	...	4	4	1	91	145	6	245	388	7	6	7	...	...	...	...	265	409	21
1900.....	...	...	83	130	3	13	17	4	21	28	2	16	16	3	4	4	3	137	195	15	17	53	2	9	11	2	11	11	11	37	75	15
1901.....	...	...	71	120	1	31	40	8	27	27	4	26	26	...	6	6	2	161	219	15	24	36	...	77	100	4	22	22	22	123	158	26
1902.....	1	2	62	115	4	13	13	5	19	20	3	18	18	1	4	4	2	117	172	15	150	239	1	37	60	12	4	4	4	191	303	17	
1903.....	7	15	41	54	...	15	23	2	19	26	7	9	10	...	4	4	3	95	132	14	161	262	2	13	16	4	6	6	6	180	284	12	

The figures given in this table for the years previous to 1894 differ from those given in the Annual Reports for those years, inasmuch as the returns for Burscough are not included.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT FROM 1893 TO 1903.

	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1803.	Mean of 10 years, 1893 to 1902.	Mean of England & Wales, 1892 to 1901.
Estimated Population	26,004	26,097	25,809	26,183	26,537	26,253	26,767	26,875	26,813	27,398	27,488	26,473	
Birth Rate, per 1000 living	30.18	27.93	28.60	27.34	26.60	24.56	25.13	25.34	25.51	23.39	22.26	26.45	29.6
Death Rate	17.22	16.17	16.12	12.47	15.66	13.76	15.01	14.73	13.87	13.86	12.69	14.88	17.89
Epidemic Death Rate	1.19	1.60	1.58	.72	1.32	1.16	.97	.89	1.45	1.05	.83	1.19	2.52
Smallpox .....	...	.03	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.07	.003	.014
Measles .....	.15	.3	.19	.07	.19	.19	.26	.07	...	.03	.07	.14	.39
Scarlet Fever .....	.3	.42	.11	.19	.26	.03	...	.11	.03	.14	...	.15	.14
Diphtheria .....	.108	.15	.42	.03	.03	.15	.14	.14	.29	.18	.07	.16	.27
Whooping Cough .....	.03	.26	.15	.15	.48	.22	..	.07	.14	.43	.14	.19	.35
Typhus Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.002
Enteric Fever .....	.3	.22	.3	.15	.07	.22	.03	.07	.14	.1	.25	.16	.16
Diarrhoea .....	.57	.19	.38	.11	.26	.45	.52	.4	.82	.15	.21	.38	.75
Croup .....	.07	...	...	.03	...	.07	...	...	...	.03	...	.017	.04
Erysipelas .....	.13	...	.11	.03	...	.07	...	.11	...	.21	.29	.4	.31
Influenza .....	.38	.23	.61	.15	.48	.3	.56	.89	.22	.07	.1	.04	.06
Puerperal Fever .....	.07	...	.07	...	...	.03	.03	.11	.07	.03	.1	.06	.07
Rheumatic Fever .....	.13	.07	.07	.07	.07	.03	.03	.03	.07	.03	.1	.06	.07
Pulmonary Phthisis	1.46	1.45	1.27	.80	.97	.91	1.27	.81	1.0	1.02	.8	1.09	1.35
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	3.03	2.75	2.86	2.52	2.71	2.05	2.46	2.45	2.31	2.26	1.38	2.54	2.98
Cancer .....	.53	.38	.58	.42	.37	.49	.48	.59	.44	.83	1.01	.51	.76
Violence, Accident, and Suicide .....	.61	.76	.34	.42	.86	.34	.22	1.04	.78	.4	.58	.57	.65
Old Age	1.76	1.87	1.85	1.22	1.31	1.40	.82	.96	.93	1.05	2.32	1.31	.92
Infant Mortality, per 1000 Births	127	122	123	98	158	118	144	123	115	129	98	125	153

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

On page 7 will be found a table giving the number of cases of Infectious Diseases which came to my knowledge during the year, the number of houses which were infected, and the deaths which were due to these diseases. It will be seen from this table that the number was 416 in 275 different houses. This is 59 fewer cases than in the previous year, and 33 infected houses less. Comparing the individual diseases with the previous year, Smallpox showed an increase of 13 cases, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup of 10, Enteric Fever of 6, Measles of 23, and Diarrhoea of 2; while there were 61 fewer cases of Scarlet Fever, 44 of Whooping Cough, and 8 of Erysipelas. The number of deaths was 26, or 6·2 per cent. of the whole number of cases.

In addition to the usual notifications from the Medical Attendant, the following cases came to my knowledge from other sources. School Teachers informed me of 1 case of Scarlet Fever, 7 cases of Whooping Cough, and 138 cases of Measles; Parents of 1 case of Scarlet Fever, and 2 cases of Measles; School Attendance Officers of 12 cases of Measles, and 4 cases of Whooping Cough; Inspector Bond, by inquiry, discovered 83 cases of Measles; and my own inquiries brought to light 1 case of Enteric Fever, 1 case of Smallpox, and 24 cases of Measles. The Registrars informed me of the various deaths as they occurred: their special returns again proving of great value in some instances.

COMPULSORY NOTIFICATION.

To the Medical Officer of Health compulsory notification is of great value, the early knowledge of the presence of infectious disease in any locality being of the utmost importance in preventing further development.

SMALLPOX.

HOUSES INFECTED, 6 AND 1 CAMP; CASES, 15; DEATHS, 2.

Further cases of this disease occurred during the year, 5 townships being affected, viz.:—Altcar 7, Bickerstaffe 1, Maghull 4, Melling 2, and Tarleton 1. At the commencement of February,

a case was notified from a house in Maghull, two days afterwards a son commenced, and on the seventh day the mother of the first patient was found to be suffering from the disease in a malignant form, which rapidly proved fatal. The source of infection was apparent, a relative from an infected house in Liverpool having visited Maghull about 12 days before the cases commenced. The other members of the family were re-vaccinated, and all escaped but one boy, who was not re-vaccinated until 8 days after the outbreak in the house owing to scarcity of lymph. This boy was then successfully vaccinated, but also at the same time having small-pox in a very mild form, only about six pustules being discoverable. His father and brother, who had not been vaccinated since childhood, had the disease much more severely, in fact these four cases showed in a remarkable manner that the longer the time which had elapsed since vaccination had been performed, the more severe was the attack of small-pox. The next two cases were in Melling, commencing within a few days of each other, but having no connection. One apparently contracted the disease while visiting in Yorkshire, and the other from a Liverpool source. The disease then appeared in Bickerstaffe, from which township one case was reported, the source again being Liverpool. Altcar was next affected, one of the militiamen in the camp after being in residence three days was taken ill, but did not report himself until two days had elapsed; in the meantime he was sleeping in a tent with several other men. Strict precautions were taken to prevent the spread of the disease, all who were known to have been in contact with the patient were quarantined away from the rest of the troops, and over one thousand men were re-vaccinated as quickly as possible; I also advised that the whole camp should be quarantined, but the military authorities objected to this course, maintaining that it was unnecessary. Thirteen days after the discovery of the first case, four others were attacked, followed by two more, making seven in all. The military authorities then decided to impose quarantine on the camp, and confined all men to quarters for 17 days. There was no spread of the disease in the surrounding districts. In August the

last case appeared in Tarleton, the source of infection probably being Chorley. This case was removed to the Fazackerley Hospital, Liverpool, and proved fatal. On the occasion of each outbreak strict precautions were taken to prevent any further spread of the disease, all persons who had been in contact with the cases either directly or indirectly being urged to be re-vaccinated, and also disinfection was performed most carefully in every instance. With the exception of the boy at Maghull, and the cases in the camp at Altcar, there was no further spread of the disease among any of the persons who had been in contact with the patients. Thirteen of the cases were treated in the tent hospital, which had been provided in December of the previous year, one case was removed to the hospital at Fazackerley, and one died at home—the patient being too ill to remove when first seen. The tent hospital was in every way a success, being warm and comfortable in the worst of the winter weather, and in my opinion was very much to be preferred to any other kind of temporary hospital. All the patients did well, and in no case were there any complications. In the autumn the several tents were taken down and stored away, but can be erected within a short space of time should they be required again.

The accommodation provided (which was purchased from Messrs. John Edgington & Son, of London), consisted of a ward tent capable of receiving eight patients, with provision for separation of the sexes, a tent for two nurses was connected with this by a canvas-covered passage. Both tents had double canvas walls and double roof, had wood floors, and were successfully and safely heated with closed stoves. A short distance away was a bell tent used by the servants, and in addition there was a kitchen and bathroom built of wood, near by, which is now used as a storehouse for the tents, &c.

SCARLET FEVER.

HOUSES INFECTED, 41 ; CASES, 54 ; DEATHS, 0.

There was a marked decline in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever during 1903, fewer cases being notified and discovered than

in any year since the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, came into operation on January 1st, 1890. The following townships were affected:—Ainsdale, 4 houses, 5 cases; Aughton, 8 houses, 14 cases; Bickerstaffe, 2 houses, 2 cases; Formby, 3 houses, 3 cases; Halsall, 1 house, 1 case; Hesketh, 1 house, 1 case; Maghull, 12 houses, 17 cases; Melling, 3 houses, 3 cases; North Meols, 2 houses, 2 cases; Scarisbrick, 1 house, 1 case; Simonswood, 1 house, 2 cases; Tarleton, 3 houses, 3 cases. In Maghull the majority of the cases occurred at the beginning of the year, and were a continuation of the outbreak of the previous year, which I commented on in my Annual Report for 1902. Four of the cases in Aughton were in one house, and 3 in another. There were no special features in any of the other cases that call for remark. There was no death during the year due to this disease.

DIPHThERIA AND MEMBRANOUS GROUp.

HOUSES INFECTED, 15; CASES, 23; DEATHS, 2.

There were ten more cases of this disease than in the previous year, but the mortality was less, there being two deaths against five for 1902. The most noticeable feature about this disease has been the number of premises where sanitary defects have been discovered when an examination has been made, and also in the majority of cases the surroundings have been in such a state as to be a nuisance, and required the Inspector's attention. Two of the cases were imported from outside the district.

ENTERIC FEVER.

HOUSES INFECTED, 19; CASES, 26; DEATHS, 7.

AINSDALE.

J. M., male, aged 56. Fatal case. Lived on sanitary premises, supplied with water from public service. No apparent cause for the disease.

M. J. G., female, aged 41. Premises unsatisfactory. Water supply from public service. Had been eating freely of cockles about a fortnight previous to commencement of illness, the cockles having been gathered from the bank, not far from the outlet of the Crosby sewer.

AUGHTON.

A. W., female, aged 10. Lived on premises which were unsatisfactory, supplied with water from a well, a sample from which on analysis proved to be unsatisfactory.

T. W., male, aged 4. As the previous case.

J. B., female, aged 43. This patient along with 3 others in the same family were taken ill after eating cockles. All except the patient were violently sick, and recovered in the course of a few days, she however developed symptoms of Enteric Fever some 12 or 14 days afterwards. Premises satisfactory and supplied with water from public service.

BICKERSTAFFE.

R. K., male, aged 30. Lived on insanitary premises supplied with water from public service.

R. K., male, aged 30. The same person as the foregoing, who had a second attack some 3 months after recovery from the first. A serious state of nuisance existed on these premises, which was supposed to have been done away with, the work had however been very imperfectly performed. This was brought to light on excavations being made by the side of the house.

J. M., female, aged 8. Probably contracted outside the district, but lived on insanitary premises with water supply from a well which was found to be polluted.

E. M., female, aged 5. As the previous case.

HALSALL.

M. M., female, aged 24. Lived on premises close to which a large quantity of manure was stored. Water supply from a well.

MAGHULL.

T. Mc.K., male, aged 6. Lived on sanitary premises supplied with water from public service. No apparent cause for the disease.

F. L. B., female, aged 28. Lived on insanitary premises, supplied with water from public service.

H. H., male, aged 33. Fatal case. Lived on premises which were satisfactory. Probably contracted the disease outside the district.

MELLING.

H. H., female, aged 8. Fatal case. Lived on insanitary premises, supplied with water from a well, a sample from which on analysis proved to be unsatisfactory.

NORTH MEOLS.

E. C., female, aged 38. Premises unsatisfactory. Water supply from a rain water tank.

R. W., male, aged 9. Premises recently provided with proper drainage. An open filthy ditch alongside road close to house.

RUFFORD.

P. A., male, aged 57. Fatal case. Lived on sanitary premises, with water supply from public service. Had had oysters about 14 days previous to commencement of illness.

H. C., male, aged 53. Lived on sanitary premises with water supply from a well. Had oysters 14 days previous to commencement of illness.

E. S., female, aged 15. Had been living in service in a farm house, which had water laid on from the public service, the occupiers however frequently used water from a well which had on a previous occasion been analysed and found to be polluted.

J. S., male, aged 4. Probably contracted the disease from the foregoing.

TARLETON.

R. I., male, aged 38. Lived on sanitary premises, supplied with water from public service. His occupation was a canal boatman, and probably the disease was contracted outside the district.

J. I., female, aged 34. Probably contracted the disease from the foregoing.

J. I., female, aged 11. As above.

E. J., female, aged 8. As above.

R. A., male, aged 32. Fatal case. Lived on sanitary premises, supplied with water from public service, but occupiers had been in the habit of using water from a polluted well in preference to the proper supply.

R. B., male, aged 56. Fatal case. Water from public service, but premises very unsatisfactory, a ditch having been allowed to become very foul at the rear of the house.

MEASLES.

HOUSES INFECTED, 161; CASES, 262; DEATHS, 2.

There was again an increase in the number of cases of Measles, there being 21 cases more than in the previous year. At the end of 1902 the disease had appeared in Ainsdale, and during January of the present year it spread throughout the township to a considerable extent. I considered it necessary to advise the Managers of St. John's School to close from January 12th to January 26th, and also the Managers of the Undenominational School from January 26th to February 23rd. The disease then died out. The neighbouring township of Formby became affected at the beginning of January, but it was not until the end of the month that the epidemic became widespread; from then however until the middle of March fresh cases were constantly being discovered. I considered it necessary to advise the Managers of St. Peter's School to close from January 29th to February 23rd, the Managers of "Our Lady" Schools from February 23rd to March 23rd, and the Managers of Holy Trinity School from March 9th to March 30th. No further cases came to my knowledge after the end of March. In February, a few cases appeared in North Meols, connected with an outbreak in Southport, and cases were occasionally reported during March and April, but it was not

until June that the numbers became at all serious, and threatened to assume epidemic proportions in the township. I then deemed it necessary to advise the Managers of the Primitive Methodist School, Banks, to close from May 15th to June 8th, with satisfactory results. No special action was required in respect of any of the other cases, nor did they call for any special comment.

WHOOPING COUGH.

HOUSES INFECTED, 13 ; CASES, 16 ; DEATHS, 4.

This disease was much less prevalent than in 1902, there being 44 fewer cases brought to my knowledge. The deaths numbered 4, against 12 for the previous year.

DIARRHOEA.

HOUSES INFECTED, 6 ; CASES, 6 ; DEATHS, 6.

Although the deaths from Diarrhoea were two more than in the previous year, the number was less than the average, the absence of hot weather in the summer being no doubt accountable for it. None of the cases call for special comment.

ERYSIPELAS.

HOUSES INFECTED, 9 ; CASES, 10 ; DEATHS, 0.

There were fewer cases of this disease than for some years. There was nothing in connection with any of them that needs specially commenting upon.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

HOUSES INFECTED, 4 ; CASES, 4 ; DEATHS, 3.

Two of these cases lived on premises where there had been temporary nuisances.

ISOLATION AND DISINFECTION.

All houses in which cases of an infectious nature are known to exist, whether notified by medical men or not, are visited, an endeavour being made to discover the source of infection, and frequently much valuable information is gained, and also other cases are often brought to light.

Instructions are given to the householders regarding the precautions that should be taken to prevent, if possible, further spread of the disease, and a copy of the "Rules and Regulations to be observed in the Management of Infectious Diseases" is left at the house, and should the disease be Scarlet Fever, an additional leaflet is left, drawing attention to the responsibilities and liabilities of parents in regard to the notification and the prevention of the spread of the disease. The leaflets are also distributed among the parents of children who are attending a school at which cases of Scarlet Fever have occurred. It is not unusual for parents to consider that a mild attack of Scarlet Fever is Measles, and in this way much mischief is done by the patient being allowed to mix with other children while in an infectious state.

Izal is supplied in all cases by the Inspectors to persons in whose house there are cases of infectious disease, if application is made for it.

At the termination of all cases of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Puerperal Fever, Scarlet Fever, and Smallpox, the hospital porter proceeds to the house, and thoroughly disinfects the rooms where the patients have been, removing to Holly House for steam disinfection everything that may require it.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Holly House, Aughton, formerly a country residence, was acquired by the District Council, and after alterations had been made so as to provide accommodation for eight Scarlet Fever and two Enteric Fever cases, it was opened for the admission of patients on February 9th, 1897. Attached to the establishment is a "Thresh" Steam Disinfector, and there is also a brougham ambulance, and a bedding van. Along with the house are four acres of land.

The new pavilion which was opened in 1902, proved of great service in the early months of the year.

No patients have, as yet, been sent to the hospital by the Croston Urban District Council who have an agreement by which that authority can send patients to Holly House suffering from Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, and Scarlet Fever.

Dr. Hope, Medical Officer of Health for Liverpool, was again kind enough to arrange for the admittance of a case of Smallpox to one of the hospitals in that city, at a time when our own tent hospital was closed. As no further cases occurred it was therefore not necessary to reopen the tents.

It has not been necessary during the year to take advantage of the arrangement with the Southport Corporation to take cases from the northern townships.

The following is a summary of the work done at the hospital during the year:—On January 1st 15 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 of Smallpox were in residence, and there have been admitted 61 new patients, 34 suffering from Scarlet Fever, 8 from Enteric Fever, 5 from Diphtheria, and 13 from Smallpox. One case was notified as Enteric Fever, and an urgent request for admission was made by the Medical Attendant and friends, but after keeping the patient under observation a short time he was found to be suffering from Mastoid Disease, and was removed to Southport Infirmary for operation. The cases were admitted from the following townships:—Scarlet Fever: Ainsdale 6, Aughton 13, Bickerstaffe 2, Halsall 1, Formby 1, Maghull 9, Melling 2. Enteric Fever: Aughton 2, Halsall 1, Melling 1, Tarleton 4. Diphtheria: Ainsdale 1, Altcar 2, Aughton 1, Lydiate 1. Smallpox: Altcar 7, Bickerstaffe 1, Maghull 3, Melling 2. The supposed case of Enteric Fever was from North Meols. The case of Smallpox from Tarleton was removed to the Fazackerley Smallpox Hospital, Liverpool.

Forty-four cases of Scarlet Fever, 7 cases of Enteric Fever, 5 cases of Diphtheria, and 14 cases of Smallpox have been discharged cured. There has been 1 death due to Enteric Fever during the year. The case of Smallpox which was removed to Liverpool has proved fatal.

The average residence in hospital of those patients who were discharged cured was 8 weeks and 4 days, and the average number of patients in the institution per week 10, the most in one week being 27 and the least 3. At no time was the hospital free from patients.

Return cases from 2 houses have been admitted, the disease being Scarlet Fever.

Sixty-two per cent. of the total number of cases of Scarlet Fever in the district were admitted to the hospital.

The value of the new ward block and the extra accommodation thereby secured has been very distinctly demonstrated. In January I was asked by the Medical Attendant to see a supposed case of Scarlet Fever, and have it removed to the hospital. I advised delay until desquamation commenced. Some time afterwards this was stated to have commenced, and a further request was made; the child was then admitted. Six days afterwards this child showed symptoms of Scarlet Fever, and passed through a regular attack of that disease. About the same time four other children in the ward presented decided evidence of Diphtheria. These five were then isolated from the rest and treated as Diphtheria, with satisfactory results.

The Hospital Tents for the treatment of Smallpox proved very satisfactory, all the patients doing well, and being very comfortable.

The outside work in connection with the Institution has been again of a heavy nature, the presence of smallpox adding very considerably to it. Fifty-two journeys have been made with the ambulance, 149 with the bedding van, 352 rooms have been disinfected in 107 houses, the disinfectant has been used 143 times, and 7,980 articles of bedding, clothing, etc., have been disinfected.

The following tables give the figures for each year since the Hospital was opened :—

PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL.

	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Diphtheria	Smallpox.	Total.	Deaths.
1897	21	3	0	0	24	0
1898	23	2	0	0	25	0
1899	29	7	0	0	36	0
1900	80	2 & 1 (?)	0	0	83	3
1901	50	1	0	0	51	2
1902	66	3	1	1	71	3
1903	34	8 & 1 (?)	5	13	61	1
Total...	303	28	6	14	351	9

Percentage of admissions of Patients suffering from Scarlet Fever to the ascertained cases in the West Lancashire Rural District each year :—

1897	...	...	...	...	9.5 per cent.
1898	...	...	...	...	28.7 "
1899	...	...	...	...	39.4 "
1900	...	...	...	...	56.9 "
1901	...	...	...	...	40.8 "
1902	...	...	...	...	53.0 "
1903	...	...	...	...	62.9 "

OUTSIDE WORK IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOSPITAL

	JOURNEYS.		DISINFECTION.			
	Ambu- lance.	Bedding Van.	Rooms.	Houses.	Disinfect'r used.	Articles disinfected.
1897	16	31	28	20	28	543
1898	20	65	34	31	79	1,292
1899	30	176	104	85	217	4,411
1900	64	263	150	125	393	8,089
1901	38	245	128	112	369	6,586
1902	59	205	199	134	150	3,446
1903	52	149	352	107	143	7,980
Total...	279	1,134	995	614	1,379	32,347

Under the capable supervision of Miss Pick, the Matron, the Hospital has been kept in very good order throughout the year, and the grounds have been got into a satisfactory condition.

CLOSURE OF SCHOOLS.

I considered it necessary during the year to advise that the following schools should be closed on account of Infectious Disease among the children attending :—

St. John's School, Ainsdale, from January 12th to 26th, on account of Measles.

The Undenominational School, Ainsdale, from January 26th to February 23rd, on account of Measles.

St. Peter's School, Formby, January 29th to February 23rd, on account of Measles.

The National School, Maghull, from February 2nd to February 16th, for disinfection, owing to the presence in school of a child from a Smallpox-infected house.

"Our Lady" Schools, Formby, from February 23rd to March 25th, on account of Measles.

Holy Trinity School, Formby, from March 9th to March 30th, on account of Measles.

The Primitive Methodist School, Banks, from May 15th to June 8th, on account of Measles.

EXCLUSION OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL.

Whenever possible, instead of advising that a school should be closed, individual children who may cause the spread of infectious disease are excluded, a certificate to that effect being given to the school teachers. On many occasions this action has been attended with beneficial results, and has prevented the more drastic measure of closing the school having to be adopted.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

Although covering an area of 68,184 acres, the physical features of the district do not vary very much. The townships of

Ainsdale, Formby, and North Meols, which lie to the west, are flat and low, with sluggish natural drainage. The greater part of the several townships of Altcar, Downholland, Halsall, Hesketh, Lydiate, Maghull, Scarisbrick, and Tarleton, are also low and flat, but with slight undulations in places; while Aughton, Bickerstaffe, Bispham, Melling, Rufford, and Simonswood are all more or less undulating. At no part, however, is the altitude over 300 feet above sea-level.

WATER SUPPLY.

The District is, on the whole, well supplied with water of excellent quality. The Southport Waterworks Company sunk two wells in the township of Aughton, and from this source a large portion of the district is supplied. The water is hard, but otherwise of good quality, and the quantity is unlimited. The other supplies are drawn from without the district, and, with the exception of that from the Preston Rural District Council, from wells. All are good in quality, and abundant in quantity.

The number of houses supplied with water from public service at the end of 1903 was 4,540, being an increase of 125 over the previous year, and 83·2 per cent. of the total number of inhabited houses in the district.

The Southport, Birkdale, and West Lancashire Joint Water Board have extended their mains during the year to the following extent:—In Aughton 52 yards, in Ainsdale 1074 yards, in Formby 281 yards, in Scarisbrick 219 yards. Also the private main for the Scarisbrick Trustees from Bescar Lane to the Boundary Farm and Brook has been completed, having a length of 1,720 yards. This makes a total for the year of 3,346 yards laid by the above Board in the district.

In Hesketh an extension has been laid of 1,512 yards, to supply new house property.

No work has yet been done in connection with laying the mains for the supply of the township of Altcar. The houses in that part known as Little Altcar only need a short extension of main in order to be supplied, and as some of the wells in this locality give water of a very unsatisfactory nature, it would be well to have this extension without further delay.

The map bound up at the end of the report shows the various water mains in the district, and the extensions made during the year.*

HOUSES SUPPLIED BY PUBLIC SERVICE AT THE END OF 1903.

1903.	Lathom and Burscough Main.	Liverpool Corporation.	Ormskirk Urban District Council.	Preston Rural District Council.	St. Helens Corporation.	Skelmersdale Urban District Council.	Southport Joint Water Board.	TOTALS.	Increase during the year.	Percentage of Inhabited Houses thus supplied.
AINSDALE	339	339	19	100·0
ALTCAR	5	5	0	5·4
AUGHTON	62	...	...	...	635	697	4	96·3
BICKERSTAFFE	51	...	1	99	7	158	4	42·3
DOWNHOLLAND	115	115	0	85·8
FORMBY	1077	1077	32	97·3
HALSALL	171	171	8	65·0
HESKETH	223	...	...	1	224	10	100·0
LYDIATE	132	132	3	61·6
MAGHULL	249	249	9	87·9
MELLING	1	...	...	182	...	...	183	5	93·7
NORTH MEOLS	357	357	2	88·9
RUFFORD	78	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	0	48·1
SCARISBRICK	305	305	25	70·2
SIMONSWOOD	38	...	...	38	0	60·3
TARLETON	412	...	...	...	412	4	100·0
TOTALS FOR DISTRICT	78	1	113	635	221	99	3393	4540	125	83·2

* I wish to acknowledge with thanks the assistance rendered in the initial preparation of this map by Messrs. Beeston, of Aughton; Ivy, of Ormskirk; Lackland, St. Helens; J. Leslie, of Knowsley; Rofe, of Southport; and Wood and Brodie, of Liverpool.

WATER ANALYSIS.

I have analysed 16 samples of well water during the year, and 5 samples of effluent from sewerage works. Of the samples of well water 2 were of fair quality, 10 contained too much organic matter to be safe for domestic use, 3 were polluted with animal matter, and 1 was unsatisfactory in other ways.

The samples were from the following townships :—

AUGHTON.—One sample, which contained too much organic matter.

BISPHAM.—One sample, which contained too much organic matter.

DOWNHOLLAND.—One sample, which contained too much organic matter.

FORMBY.—One sample, which was polluted.

MELLING.—Four samples. Two contained too much organic matter, one was polluted, and one was unsatisfactory in other ways.

RUFFORD.—Three samples. Two were fair, and one contained too much organic matter.

SCARISBRICK.—Three samples, all containing too much organic matter.

TARLETON.—Two samples. One contained too much organic matter, and one was polluted.

The samples of sewage effluent were from the Aughton Sewage Works, and all were of a satisfactory nature.

SEWERING AND DRAINAGE.

AUGHTON.—Fourteen houses have been connected with the main sewer during the year, making a total of 367 for the whole township.

The whole of the houses in Granville Park have now been connected.

The sewage of the southern area is carried to outfall works, which are situated on the south-west of the township. It is there received into four closed tanks. From the tanks the sewage has hitherto flowed on to land which is under-drained with agricultural tiles, the final effluent being discharged into the brook at the lower end of the plot. During the past year some of the land has shown evidence of being overworked, notwithstanding the fact that the effluent has been of uniformly good quality. Complaints were also received of the disagreeable odours given off from the land. It was therefore decided to erect a filter on the principle designed by Mr. Stoddart, of Bristol, in order to relieve a portion of the area, so as not only to give rest, but to allow the underdraining to be attended to. The tank effluent was turned on to this filter in December, but at the end of the year it had not been working long enough to judge of the amount of work that can be accomplished by it.

The sewage from the northern area is, by agreement with the Ormskirk Urban District Council, discharged into the main sewer of that town, and carried to its outfall works in Scarisbrick.

AINSDALE.—The result of the inquiry which was held in November of the previous year, was in due course communicated by the Local Government Board to the Council. The plans were referred back to be amended in some particulars, and, also, it was intimated that more land would be required on which to treat the sewage. Before, however, these recommendations could be carried out, the Urban District Council of Birkdale and the Parish Council of Ainsdale entered into an agreement with the object of amalgamation for sanitary purposes. A petition was sent to the County Council by the former praying that the latter should be added to its district. The Parliamentary Committee of that body held an inquiry at Birkdale on November 12th, and, after hearing evidence, the Chairman announced that the members of the Committee had decided to recommend the County

Council to grant the petition. As one of the conditions of the amalgamation is that the Birkdale Council will forthwith proceed with a scheme for sewerage of the township, nothing further has been done with respect to the scheme on which the inquiry was held.

BICKERSTAFFE.—A small area of this township, which is in close proximity to Ormskirk, is, by agreement with the Urban District Council, connected with the sewer of that town.

FORMBY.—On April 4th the sanction of the Local Government Board was received to the application to borrow £41,000 for the purpose of sewerage of the township, the inquiry in respect of which application had been held in April of the previous year. Steps were taken to procure tenders, with the result that Messrs. Monk and Newell, of Bootle, have entered into a contract with the Council to carry out the work.

THE CESSPOOL SYSTEM.

In the greater part of the District this system, with its attendant disadvantages, is the only available means of dealing with the sewage. In the more sparsely populated parts of the District, where there is sufficient land to use up the cesspool contents, it is possible to prevent nuisance arising ; but where, as is frequently the case, people are careless, and in thickly populated areas, where the ground is insufficient, cesspools readily become a nuisance and a source of danger to health.

HOUSE DRAINS.

Throughout the District generally these are fairly satisfactory. Inspections are constantly being made, and defects remedied ; the reports of the Inspectors, which follow, showing the work done in that department.

SCAVENGING.

AINSDALE.—In this township the contents of the ash-pits, privies, and pail closets have again been removed by contract, with undoubted benefit to the community.

AUGHTON.—The contents of the ashpits and privies in the northern area are removed by contract, the result being very beneficial. It has also been found practicable to have a portion of the southern area dealt with in like manner. I trust that in the near future the remainder of the southern area will come within the same contract.

FORMBY.—Public scavenging in this township is now an established institution, the benefit reaped being such that there is very little fear of a return to the old order of things.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

This is, on the whole, fair throughout the District, the working classes generally having comfortable dwellings, with a sufficiency of open space about them, and the surroundings are mostly kept in a cleanly condition. There are still in some parts low, ill-ventilated houses in existence, but efforts are continually made to get the owners either to pull these down and erect new ones in their place, or so to alter them that they may be habitable. A considerable amount of success has in this way been met with, and the house accommodation generally throughout the district is improving.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.

Under this Act one house has been dealt with. The owner on receiving notice acted upon it without delay, and proceeded to make the premises habitable.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings were ordered on six occasions, but as the notices were all complied with, within the time specified, no further action was necessary.

LODGING HOUSES, SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The premises have been found in a satisfactory condition when visited.

BAKEHOUSES.

The premises are now dealt with under the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDERS, 1885 AND 1886.

There are 68 registered Dairies and Cowsheds in the district, being an increase of two over the previous year. All have been regularly visited, and have been found in a satisfactory condition, with one exception, which was reported upon to the Formby Parochial Committee, as being in a "filthy condition." In this case the premises are changing hands, and steps are being taken to ensure that they will be kept in a more satisfactory condition.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

These Acts are administered by the County Police, and I am indebted to Superintendent Jervis, of Ormskirk, and to Superintendent Norris, of Chorley, for the following information:—In that portion of the district lying within the West Derby Hundred, 91 samples were taken, and there were two convictions for adulteration. In the portion lying within the Leyland Hundred, 5 samples were taken, no proceedings following.

MEAT INSPECTING.

Information having been received that a carcase of beef had been dressed in the township of North Meols, under suspicious circumstances, accompanied by the Sanitary Inspector I visited the premises and examined the meat. I found that, although of very poor quality, there was no evidence of disease. It was therefore not seized.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Under this Act various duties now devolve upon District Councils, which were previously performed by the Factory Inspectors. This change throws a considerable amount of extra work upon the Council's Officials, but the experience of the past year proves conclusively that the change is beneficial to those employed in the various workshops, and workplaces, and therefore to the public at large. The Medical Officer of Health, and the Sanitary Inspectors, being continually about the district can give these places much better supervision than was possible

by the Factory Inspectors under the old Act. Also they can more readily discover small workshops, &c., the occupiers of which imagine that registration is unnecessary, and do not consider that there is any necessity to conform to the provisions of the Act. Many of these have been brought to light during the year.

Particulars of the workshops and of the work done during the year in connections therewith, are summarised as follows :—

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Tailors	4
Dressmakers	24
Shoemakers	16
Wheelwrights and Smiths and Plumbers ...	7
Joiners	8
Cycle Repairers	2
Laundries	2
Bakehouses	19
Total	82

WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

Permanent ventilation provided	31
Outside dilapidations repaired	3
Extra light provided	1
Premises limewashed	31
Premises re-painted	8
New privies and urinals provided	7
Water laid on	1
Old drains, privies, &c. removed	7
New workrooms provided	2
Workrooms cleansed	3
Overcrowding abated	3
Workshop closed	1
Notices served	31
Visits paid by Medical Officer of Health	14
Visits paid by Sanitary Inspectors	256

SYSTEMATIC VISITING.

This has been carried out during the year, and is in fact always going on. In addition to the nuisances of the usual character to which I have drawn the attention of the Inspectors, a large amount of work has been done in connection with the workshops and workplaces, many new ones having been discovered and placed upon the register, and the whole of them generally having been got into a much better condition.

NUISANCES.

Full reports by the Inspectors are herewith included, and particulars as to nuisances, and other matters dealt with by them, will be found therein.

BUILDING OPERATIONS.

Bye-laws in connection with this important work are in force throughout the district, and all plans must be sent to Mr. Law Green, the Chief Surveyor, who reports upon them to the various meetings, and examines the buildings from time to time during the course of erection.

The following plans were passed during the year in the various townships :—

AINSDALE.

New Houses	...	...	10
Additions and Outbuildings		...	5
			—
Total	...	...	15
			—

AUGHTON.

New Houses	...	...	11
Additions and Outbuildings		...	4
Drains	...	...	14
			—
Total	...	...	29
			—

BICKERSTAFFE.

New Houses	2
Additions and Outbuildings			...	5
				<hr/>
Total	7
				<hr/>

DOWNHOLLAND.

New House	1
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FORMBY.

New Houses	48
Other New Buildings	3
Additions and Outbuildings			...	10
New Street	..	...	...	1
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	62
				<hr/>

HALSALL

New Houses	10
Additions and Outbuildings			...	1
				<hr/>
Total	11
				<hr/>

HESKETH.

New Houses	4
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MAGHULL.

New House	1
Additions and Outbuildings			...	2
				<hr/>
Total	3
				<hr/>

MELLING.

New Houses	2
Additions and Outbuildings			...	1
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	3
				<hr/>

NORTH MEOLS.

New House	...	...	...	1
Additions and Outbuildings			...	2
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	3
				<hr/>

RUFFORD.

Additions and Outbuildings	...	5
----------------------------	-----	---

SCARISBRICK.

New Houses	...	...	...	10
Other New Buildings	...	...	...	1
Additions and Outbuildings	...	...	...	2
New Streets	...	...	...	2
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	15
				<hr/>

TARLETON.

New Houses	...	...	...	8
Other New Buildings	...	...	...	3
Additions and Outbuildings	...	...	...	6
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	17
				<hr/>

TOTAL FOR THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.

New Houses	...	...	...	108
Other New Buildings	...	...	...	7
Additions and Outbuildings	...	...	...	43
Drains	...	...	...	14
New Streets	...	...	...	3
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	175
				<hr/>

Appended are :—

- (1) Tables I., II., III., IV. of the Local Government Board.
- (2) Table C of the County Council.
- (3) Inspector Peach's Annual Report.
- (4) Inspector Bond's Annual Report.
- (5) The Annual Report on Canal Boats.
- (6) Copy of Rules and Regulations to be observed in the Management of Infectious Diseases.
- (7) Copy of Special Notice respecting Scarlet Fever.
- (8) A Map showing the Water Mains laid on in the District.

Table C.

COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR
1903.*RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF WEST
LANCASHIRE.**Area in Statute Acres—68,184. Population (Census) 1901, 26,645.
Population Estimated 1903, 27,488.*

GEORGE EDWARD SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.

*Salary, £350 to Nov. 3rd., £450 after.*Births Registered { Male.....318 } Total, 612.
 { Female...294 }Deaths Registered { Male.....169 } Total, 349.
 { Female...180 }

No of Illegitimate Births Registered—20.

Illegitimate deaths under one year of age—4.

Birth-rate—22·26. Death-rate, 12·69. Rate of Infant Deaths,
under one year, to 1,000 Births—98.Death-rate from the *seven principal* Zymotic Diseases, per 1,000
of population—83.

Diseases prevalent ?—Measles. Period ?—January to March.

What action taken ? See Report. Any Schools closed ?—Yes.

If so, from what disease ?—See report.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation ?—See
report, page 18.Is it Joint or otherwise ?—No, but Croston can send patients by
agreement.

Number of Beds available for the District ?—26.

Number of cases treated ?—Small-pox, 13 ; Diphtheria, 5 ;
Scarlet Fever, 34 ; Typhoid Fever, 8 ; Doubtful, 1.—
Total, 61.

Deaths in Hospital ?—1. From what causes ?—Typhoid Fever.

How is Disinfection carried out ?—Houses by spray and fumiga-
tion. Clothing, Bedding, &c. ?—By steam. Apparatus
used ?—Thresh Disinfector.

Number of cases of Infectious Disease notified ?—132.

Are any Diseases not specially mentioned in the Act notifiable
(for instance Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Chicken-
pox, &c.) ? If so, what are they ?—No.Has any arrangement been made for the "voluntary" notification
of Phthisis ?—No.Has any action been taken under "The Housing of the Working
Classes Act" ?—See report, pages 28 and 57.How many houses condemned as unfit for human habitation, and
how many closed or demolished ?—See report, page 28.

From where is the Water Supply obtained, and what is its condition? Is it subject to your inspection?—See report, pages 23 and 24. Good on the whole. Not subject to inspection as a right, but allowed by courtesy.

Is Scavenging carried out satisfactorily?—No, except in certain townships.

By Sanitary Authority or Contract?—By contract.

How is the Refuse disposed of?—By Householders, except in Ainsdale, Aughton, and Formby.

What is the character of Drainage and the form of Sewage Disposal?—Cesspool system, except in Aughton and part of Bickerstaffe.

Canal Boats?—Satisfactory. See report appended.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses?—Satisfactory, except those reported upon, on page 75.

Any action taken with regard to Underground Bakehouses? None in the District.

Slaughter Houses?—Satisfactory at times of visits.

Lodging Houses?—3. Satisfactory when visited.

Are they Registered?—Yes.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected?—Yes.

What is their condition?—Satisfactory on the whole.

Are they subject to regulations made under the Order of the Local Government Board?—Yes.

What amount of air space in cubic feet is required for each cow? None specified in Regulations.

Have the Factories and Workshops been Inspected, and with what result?—Yes, see report, page 29.

Food unfit for Human Consumption, amount seized?—None.

Any Special Report of Medical Officer of Health during the year?—Five on School Closure. Six on Small-pox.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances—No. of Notices served, 295; No. of Nuisances remedied, 719; No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result—None required.

Smoke.—No. of observations—None. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result—None. What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour?

Has the Authority adopted—(a) "The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890"?—Yes. (b) "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890"?—Yes.

TABLE 1. West Lancashire Rural Dis rict.
Vital Statistics of whole District during 1902 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS	Deaths of Non-residents registered in District.	Deaths of residents registered beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NETT.	
		Number.	Rate *	Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1893.	26,004	785	30.18	100	127	458	17.61	16	25	15	448	17.22
1894.	26,097	729	27.93	89	122	430	16.47	9	17	9	422	16.17
1895.	25,809	741	28.60	91	123	451	16.43	25	39	6	418	16.12
1896.	26,183	716	27.34	70	98	344	13.13	18	25	8	327	12.47
1897.	26,537	716	26.60	113	158	427	15.71	16	3	8	416	15.63
1898.	26,253	653	24.56	80	118	382	14.55	18	10	12	366	13.76
1899.	26,767	673	25.13	97	144	410	15.31	20	27	19	402	15.01
1900.	26,875	681	25.34	84	123	392	14.58	21	16	21	397	14.73
1901.	26,813	684	25.51	79	115	376	14.02	17	17	13	372	13.87
1902.	27,398	641	23.39	83	129	367	13.39	9	7	20	380	13.86
Averages for years 1893—1902.	26,475	701	26.45	88	125	403	15.12	16.9	18.6	13	394	14.88
1903.	27,488	612	22.26	60	98	345	12.55	20	19	23	349	12.69

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses, and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this table.

Area of District in acres(exclusive of area covered by water), 68,184.

I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm per- sons from outside the District.	II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	III. Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distri- buted among the several localities in the District.
Aughton Isolation Hospital	The Ormskirk Union Work- house, Ormskirk.	Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.
Southport Fever Hospital, situate in North Meols.		
Shaftesbury House Private Asylum, Formby.		
The Epileptic Home, Maghull.		
Liverpool Union Conva- lescent Home, Maghull.		Small-pox Hospital, Fazackerley, Liverpool.

TABLE 2. West Lancashire Rural District.

YEAR.	Whole District.				1. Ainsdale.				2. Altcar.				3. Aughton.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
1893 ...	26,004	785	448	100	Included in Formby.				541	21	5	1	3528	112	75	18
1894 ...	26,097	729	422	89					503	14	9	2	3634	98	53	11
1895 ...	25,809	741	418	91	1164	31	22	3	523	15	9	...	3616	86	57	11
1896 ...	26,183	716	327	70	1205	28	7	...	544	12	7	...	3593	112	51	10
1897 ...	26,537	716	416	113	1231	38	25	4	544	13	6	2	3586	81	49	12
1898 ...	26,253	653	366	80	1276	29	9	1	541	10	2	...	3541	105	52	9
1899 ...	26,767	673	402	97	1314	30	21	4	535	11	2	...	3576	86	65	14
1900 ...	26,875	681	397	84	1304	27	17	3	532	15	11	4	3596	81	49	13
1901 ...	26,813	684	372	79	1318	39	30	6	545	6	7	...	3571	88	61	8
1902 ..	27,398	641	380	83	1355	32	19	2	539	17	6	2	3686	83	50	11
Averages of Years 1893 to 1902.	26,473	701	394	88	1271	31	19	3	534	13	6	1	3592	93	56	11
1903 ...	27,488	612	349	60	1419	31	23	4	534	6	4	1	3636	94	34	4

TABLE 2. West Lancashire Rural District.

YEAR.	4. Bickerstaffe.				5. Bispham.				6. Downholland.				7. Formby.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1893 ...	2131	64	39	6	285	10	2	...	728	32	9	...	6384	165	83	10
1894 ...	2120	77	36	13	309	4	3	...	738	14	11	5	6443	164	82	11
1895 ...	2114	71	36	8	306	3	10	...	738	29	9	2	5155	149	66	15
1896 ...	2158	67	33	11	306	5	5	...	749	21	5	1	5401	128	47	1
1897 ...	2160	77	45	13	320	8	6	3	751	24	8	2	5312	138	80	19
1898 ...	2084	60	41	9	338	11	8	3	738	15	4	1	5421	109	63	10
1899 ...	2061	70	26	4	338	8	5	1	736	21	11	2	5530	134	79	20
1900 ...	2092	64	36	11	310	2	6	...	717	21	13	3	5647	125	88	15
1901 ...	2090	67	32	4	332	6	6	1	697	20	12	3	5649	117	53	14
1902 ...	2097	67	40	9	355	2	1	...	707	14	11	4	5764	108	69	14
Averages of Years 1893 to 1902.	2110	68	36	8.8	319	6	5	.8	729	21	9	2	5670	133	71	13
1903 ...	2075	56	21	2	338	1	5	...	702	13	10	2	5906	110	64	10

Including Ainsdale.

TABLE 2. West Lancashire Rural District.

YEAR.	8. Halsall.				9. Hesketh.				10. Lydiate.				11. Maghull.			
	Population estimated of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1893 ...	1199	40	27	8	940	36	18	5	1081	33	20	5	1421	36	22	8
1894 ...	1169	41	28	8	941	38	27	7	1076	25	23	3	1489	34	20	4
1895 ..	1167	37	23	8	914	25	9	5	1043	33	23	5	1501	35	19	4
1896 ...	1182	30	21	4	900	33	12	3	1112	30	19	3	1521	33	12	4
1897 ..	1232	44	18	8	912	37	25	7	1105	26	19	3	1552	26	21	3
1898 ...	1260	30	12	1	914	22	16	5	1076	27	17	4	1564	41	28	6
1899 ...	1252	30	17	5	941	32	12	3	1044	28	21	7	1525	33	19	5
1900 ...	1244	28	16	3	943	30	16	2	1061	25	21	4	1501	32	33	10
1901 ...	1251	41	16	6	928	31	11	2	1033	25	20	4	1514	36	19	7
1902 ..	1260	38	16	6	923	28	17	4	1061	29	22	5	1537	37	17	4
Averages of Years 1893 to 1902.	1221	35	19	5.7	925	31	16	4	1069	28	20	4	1512	34	21	5.5
1903 ...	1320	31	21	2	959	22	10	2	1042	36	21	5	1537	24	23	4

TABLE 2. West Lancashire Rural District.

Year.	12. Melling.				13. North Meols.				14. Rufford.				15. Scarisbrick.			
	Population estimated of middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated of middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated of middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated of middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1893 ...	943	29	25	5	1626	61	31	5	797	25	11	4	2239	69	34	4
1894 ...	766	29	18	3	1632	55	26	8	783	19	14	2	2200	54	26	3
1895 ...	771	17	15	2	1609	72	36	14	775	17	19	2	2190	58	29	5
1896 ...	915	28	15	4	1659	54	31	10	773	9	8	2	2250	54	27	6
1897 ...	834	23	20	6	1753	55	25	7	778	20	13	5	2230	52	33	8
1898 ...	854	23	14	4	1777	55	32	9	788	20	15	4	2185	47	28	6
1899 ...	905	18	12	5	1801	58	24	9	788	15	17	5	2203	39	33	6
1900 ...	904	30	6	...	1822	62	23	6	783	18	16	2	2203	58	20	3
1901 ...	938	22	19	4	1841	60	25	7	780	25	13	2	2156	42	22	5
1902 ...	932	19	18	2	1858	55	21	5	780	13	10	4	2216	46	30	5
Averages of Years 1893 to 1902.	876	23	16	3.5	1737	58	27	8	782	18	13	3	2207	51	28	5
1903 ...	941	27	15	3	1905	48	31	8	780	15	9	2	2152	42	21	3

TABLE 2. West Lancashire Rural District.

YEAR.	20. Shaftesbury House Asylum, Formby.				21. Southport Fever Hospital.				22. Liverpool Union Convalescent Home, Maghull.				Deaths under 1 Year.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
1893	5	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1894	5	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1895	7	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1896	5	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1897	7	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1898	9	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1899	7	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1900	3	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
1901	5	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
1902	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Averages of Years 1893 to 1902.	5.3	...	...	...	5.1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
1903	4	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...

NOTES.

- (a) The separate localities adopted for this table should be areas of which the populations are obtainable from the census returns, such as wards, parishes or groups of parishes, or registration sub-districts. Block 1 may, if desired, be used for the whole district : and blocks 2, 3, &c., for the several localities. In small districts without recognised divisions of known population this table need not be filled up.
- (b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions beyond the district are to be included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in public institutions in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident.")
- (c) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions whether within or without the district, are to be allotted to the respective localities, according to the addresses of the deceased.
- (d) Care should be taken that the gross totals of the several columns in this table respectively equal the corresponding totals for the whole district in Tables I. and IV. : thus, the totals of sub-columns *a*, *b*, and *c* should agree with the figures for the year in the columns 2, 3, and 12, respectively, of Table I. : the gross total of the sub-columns *c* should agree with the total of column 2 in Table IV., and the gross total of sub-columns *d* with the total of column 3 in Table IV.

TABLE III. West Lancashire Rural District.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1903.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from Each Locality.																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Ainsdale.	Altcar.	Aughton (H)	Bickerstaffe	Bispham.	Downholland.	Fornby.	Halsall.	Hesketh.	Lydiate.	Maghull.	Melling.	North Meols.	Rufford.	Scarsbrick.	Simonswood.	Tarleton.	Liverpool Union Convalescent Home.
Small-pox ...	...	7	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	1	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Membranous croup...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ...	6	...	13	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Typhus fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	4	...
Enteric fever ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Relapsing fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
* Measles (voluntary).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	7	9	16	3	...	...	1	2	...	1	12	5	1	...	...	...	5	3

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this Table should be the same as those in Tables II. and IV.

State the name of the isolation hospital, if any, used by the sick of the district. Mark (H) the locality in which it is situated, or if not within the district, state where it is situated, and in what district.

* This space may be used for record of other disease the notification (compulsory or voluntary) of which is in force in the district.

† These age columns for notifications should be filled up in all cases where the Medical Officer of Health, by inquiry or otherwise, has obtained the necessary information.

Isolation Hospital. — Holly House, Aughton.

TABLE IV. West Lancashire Rural District.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1903.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							DEATHS IN LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES).															Deaths in Public Institutions.			
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Ainsdale.	Altear.	Aughton.	Bickerstaffe.	Bispham.	Downholland.	Formby.	Halsall.	Hesketh.	Lydiate.	Maghull.	Melling.	North Meols.	Rufford.	Scarisbrick.		Simonswood.	Tarleton.	
Small-pox	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Measles	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	6
Scarlet fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping cough	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and membranous croup	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric	7	...	...	2	...	5	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	2	4	
Other continued ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic influenza	8	...	1	...	...	3	4	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea. (See notes at back)	6	4	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis. (See notes at back)	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other septic diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (See notes at back)	22	1	1	1	4	15	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	6	...	1	3	3	1	1	...	...	...	4	...	...
Other tubercular diseases	10	1	5	2	1	1	...	1	...	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	28	...	...	1	...	23	4	3	...	3	...	...	1	8	3	1	1	1	1	2	...	3	...	2	...	...
Bronchitis	20	2	2	...	...	5	11	2	...	3	1	...	...	1	3	2	1	1	...	2	...	2	1	1	...	...
Pneumonia	18	5	2	1	...	7	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	3	2	...	3	1	...	4	...	1	...	1	2	
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	6	...	2	...	...	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of liver	5	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	14	14	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	1	1	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	...	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart diseases	21	...	...	...	1	11	9	1	...	1	2	1	1	7	1	...	...	1	1	1	1	3	...	...	...	...
Accidents	13	...	3	3	1	5	1	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	3	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	2	1	...
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Murder	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nervous system	26	2	3	...	1	10	10	2	1	2	1	...	1	9	1	...	1	2	1	1	...	1	...	3	4	...
Old age	32	...	...	...	...	...	32	1	...	3	1	...	3	1	1	1	3	2	...	2	3	4	...	7	...	...
All other causes	95	30	6	3	3	33	20	5	1	13	8	1	3	20	5	3	4	2	6	9	3	5	...	7	2	...
All causes	349	60	32	14	12	135	96	23	4	34	21	5	10	64	21	10	21	23	15	31	9	21	2	35	20	...

See notes at back.

NOTES.—(a) In this Table all deaths of "Residents" occurring in public institutions, whether within or without the district, are to be included with the other deaths in the columns for the several age groups (columns 2-8). They are also, in columns 9-15, to be included among the deaths in their respective "Localities" according to the previous addresses of the deceased as given by the Registrars. Deaths of "Non-Residents" occurring in public institutions in the district are in like manner to be excluded from columns 2-8 and 9-15 of this Table.

(b) See notes on Table I as to the meaning of "Residents" and "Non-Residents," and as to the "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables. The "Localities" should be the same as those in Tables II. and III.

(c) All deaths occurring in public institutions situated within the district, whether of "Residents" or of "Non-Residents," are, in addition to being dealt with as in note (a), to be entered in the last column of this Table. The total number in this column should equal the figures for the year in column 9, Table I.

(d) The total deaths in the several "Localities" in columns 9-15 of this Table should equal those for the year in the same localities in Table II., sub-columns c. The total deaths at all ages in columns 2 of this Table should equal the gross total of columns 9-15, and the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.

(e) Under the heading of "Diarrhoea" are to be included deaths certified as from diarrhoea, alone or in combination with some other cause of ill-defined nature; and also deaths certified as from

Epidemic enteritis;
Zymotic enteritis;
Epidemic diarrhoea. Summer diarrhoea;
Dysentery and dysenteric diarrhoea;
Choleraic diarrhoea, cholera, cholera nostras (in the absence of Asiatic cholera).

Under the heading of "Enteritis" are to be included those certified as from Gastro-enteritis, Meco-enteritis and Gastric catarrh, unless from information obtained by enquiry from the certifying practitioner or otherwise, the Medical Officer of Health should have reason for including such deaths, especially those of infants under the specific term "Diarrhoea." Under the headings of "Cancer," "Pthisis" and "Puerperal fever" should be included all registered deaths from causes comprised within these general terms.

Deaths from diarrhoea secondary to some other well-defined disease, should be included under the latter.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables I., II., III. and IV., attention has been given to the notes on the Tables.

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health
Fely. 26th, 1904.

REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES
OF THE
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE
YEAR 1903.

DEAR SIR,

It gives me great pleasure to submit my Twenty-third Annual Report for the fifteen townships comprising my district, which is for the year ending 31st December, 1903, for the purpose of laying before the above-named Council, showing in detail the number of matters dealt with in each township as they have come under my notice, namely :—

The number of nuisances from various sources.
Water Certificates under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878.
Premises occupied in contravention of P.H. (W.) Act, 1878.
Other supplies under the Public Health Act, 1875.
Samples of Water obtained for Analysis.
Ditches and Watercourses polluted.
Overcrowding.
Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.
Special Reports.
Inspection of Meat.
Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.
Registered Common Lodging Houses.
Registered Slaughter Houses.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885.
Scavenging—Removal of Privy and Ashpit Refuse.
Water Carriage.
Notices served.

With reference to Water Certificates to new houses, 46 in number have been granted, the supplies being from public service.

It will again be seen on the reading of my Report that the want of water for domestic use has received attention.

It has been found necessary to request owners of premises, under the Public Health Act, 1875, to provide an available supply of water for the inmates of 29 dwellings.

Out of that number 26 were available and 3 were not.

EXTENSION OF WATER MAIN

Has been laid by the Council in one township, 1512 yards in length of 3in. pipes, also 1,991 yards in length has been laid by the Joint Water Board ; the total extension in my district being 3,503 yards.

The total number of supplies from public service for the year 1903 is 3,122, an increase of 72 on the year.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES—3.

These premises have been kept remarkably clean during the year, and I am pleased to report free from infectious disease.

SCAVENGING—REMOVAL OF PRIVY AND ASH-PIT REFUSE.

See under Aughton.

WATER CARRIAGE—21.

It has again been found necessary to request owners to dispense with Privies and Ash-pits, owing to the same being too near, and in several cases abutting dwellings, which are now water closets with dry ash-pits, 17 are connected with the sewer, and 4 into cesspools, the sewer not being available.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1900.

Premises dealt with under the said Act—1.

FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1901.

The above-named Act, which came into force on January 1st, 1902, has involved further responsibilities on the Council's Officials, as previous to the passing of the said Act, Bake-houses only were inspected and reported upon, but the passing of such Act will no doubt be the means of much-needed improvements in the sanitation of workplaces.

The following is a summary of the work done under the afore-said Act in my district during the year 1903.

Owing to many of the premises requiring work to be done so as to comply with the sections of the Act, and in some cases to enforce compliance therewith, notices had to be served before Registration.

This necessitated a larger number of visits than would otherwise have been necessary, viz, 104 visits have been paid to 24 premises, in which there were carried on the—

TRADE OR EMPLOYMENT AS FOLLOWS :—

Dressmakers 6, Tailors 1, Shoemakers 5, Clogger 1, Wheelwright 1, Bakehouses 10.

CLASS OF WORK REQUIRED AND CARRIED OUT.

Permanent Ventilation 13, Roof dilapidated 1, want of Spouting 1, Insufficient light 1, and Limewashing 4. To enforce the said work five notices were served.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885. 30

These premises have been periodically visited and found satisfactorily kept, in accordance with the regulations. Two persons have ceased to carry on the trade and left the district. Five applications have been made. Four were registered after providing light, ventilation, drainage, and limewashing. One person *failing to comply, registration is withheld*. The table hereafter will show at a glance, in detail, the number of matters dealt with and notices served in each township.

TOWNSHIP OF ALTCHAR.

NUISANCES.

Privies and Ashpits in a filthy state	...	...	...	...	4
Privy dilapidated	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspool dilapidated and filthy	...	...	...	...	1
Ditch or Watercourse in a foul state	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 7
Notices served	...	...	...	...	6

WATER SUPPLY.

With respect to the thickly populated part of the township as I stated in my last Annual Report, that a wholesome supply of water was very much needed for domestic use.

It is to be regretted that nothing has been done as to the laying of a main from the adjoining township (Formby) by the Joint Water Board.

In that portion known as "Little Altcar" the supplies for 1903 are 5. The said supplies are obtained by a branch pipe connected with the Joint Water Board's main at the boundary of the adjoining township (Formby).

Owing to the bad state of the water in the wells, it is also necessary to lay an extension of main in this part of the township, which has been applied for.

TOWNSHIP OF AUGHTON.

NUISANCES.

Want of water for domestic use	...	...	...	...	12
Privies and ashpits dilapidated, defective, foul and abutting dwellings	...	...	...	...	39
Drainage deficient for house refuse	...	...	...	...	6
Drain stoppage, premises filthy	...	...	...	...	16
Dilapidated ashpits	...	...	...	...	4
Yards flooded with sewage	...	...	...	...	7
Defective gully traps	...	...	...	...	6
Defective sink waste pipes	...	...	...	...	6
Dilapidated privies and ashpits	...	...	...	...	12
Want of ashpits	...	...	...	...	7
Deficient ashpits, filthy and too near	...	...	...	...	2
Want of gully traps	...	...	...	...	2
Interior of living rooms in a filthy state	...	...	...	...	2
Deposit of filthy refuse	...	...	...	...	2
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	6
Cellar flooded and in a foul state	...	...	...	...	1
Pigs kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	1

Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
REGISTERED SLAUGHTER HOUSES	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

These premises have been kept clean and in accordance with the Bye Laws.

SAMPLES OF WATER FOR ANALYSIS	1
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The said sample was obtained from a close l well with pump attached thereto.

WATER CARRIAGE.

It has again been found necessary to cause the following number of privies and ashpits to be converted into water closets with dry ashpits, owing to the same being too near dwellings, viz :— ...17

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885.

Under the above-named order, five applications have been made for registration, four out of the number have been registered after complying with the regulations in force, by providing, viz :— Light, Drainage, Ventilation, and Limewashing. One has been refused, the premises not yet being made to comply. One person during the year ceased to carry on the trade and left the district. There are now 15 persons registered Cowkeepers, and Purveyors of Milk. The whole of the premises are supplied with water from public service, and have been found in a satisfactory state at the time of visiting.

FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1901.

This is the first occasion that I have to make a Special Report of the Workshops in the township under the above-named Act, which came into force on January 1st, 1902. Previously, bakehouses only were reported upon, which are now included in the said Act.—There have been seven premises registered, after the same being made to comply with the sections of the Act referring thereto. Thirty-one visits have been made to the premises hereafter named :—

TRADE OR EMPLOYMENT AS FOLLOWS, VIZ :

Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Shoemakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wheelwright	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
								<hr/>
								8
								<hr/>

Regarding the state of the said Workshops the work required and carried out.

Permanent Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Deficient Light	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/>
								8
								<hr/>

SCAVENGING, REMOVAL OF PRIVY AND ASHPIT REFUSE.

The contents removed during the year from the following areas are, viz. :—

Northern...	...	...	...	...	...	...	493
Southern...	...	...	...	...	...	...	193
							<hr/>
							686

The removals this year show an increase of 283. The periodical removal of such refuse has brought a great improvement in the township, especially in the thickly populated parts ever since the Parochial Committee sanctioned the recommendation for such removal.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

Southport Joint Water Board	...	...	...	...	635
Ormskirk Urban District Council	...	...	...	...	62
					<hr/>
					697

Showing an increase of four on the year.

EXTENSION OF MAIN by the Joint Water Board for the new houses in course of erection at Town End is 52 yards in length.

TOWNSHIP OF BICKERSTAFFE.

NUISANCES

Privies and Ashpits dilapidated and filthy	...	...	...	21
Want of water for domestic use	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
				22
NOTICES served	...	...	...	3

PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER) ACT, 1878.

Water certificates have been granted in respect of the following number of new houses, the supplies being from public service, viz: 2

FACTORY, WOPSHOPS, AND WOPKPLACES ACT, 1901.

Under the said Act, Bakehouses are now included, there being one in the township which has been visited on five occasions and found satisfactory.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885. 1

On each visit through the year the premises have been found in a satisfactory state.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies from public service for the year 1903, is 158, including 2 for which water certificates have been granted to new houses, showing an increase of four on the year.

TOWNSHIP OF BISPHAM.

NUISANCES.

Want of water for domestic use	...	...	...	...	1
Defective drain for house refuse	...	...	...	...	1
Want of gully trap	...	...	...	...	1
Sink waste pipe untrapped and connected with drain	...				1
Ditches or watercourses filthy	...	...	...	...	2
Privies and ashpits filthy	...	...	...	...	11
Cesspools and premises in a foul state	...	...	...	...	6
Deposit of filthy refuse	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					24

Notices served... .. 12

WATER FOR ANALYSIS.

Sample of water obtained from old well 1

One new well has been sunk, but failed to procure water.

FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1901.

There is *one* Bakehouse in the township which has now to be reported upon under the said Act, and has been visited on seven occasions and found remarkably clean.

SPECIAL REPORT 1

It was found necessary to inspect and report specially upon the discharge of sewage from various premises.

TOWNSHIP OF DOWNHOLLAND.

NUISANCES.

Want of Privy and Ashpit 1

Open Midden in a filthy state 1

Cesspool dilapidated and surroundings filthy 1

3

NOTICES served 2

WATER FOR ANALYSIS... .. 1

The sample was obtained from an open well, pipe-lined.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies for the year is 115

TOWNSHIP OF HALSALL.

NUISANCES.

Want of water for domestic use 2

Want of drains for house refuse 2

Privies dilapidated, deficient, and filthy 2

Pigs kept so as to be a nuisance 1

7

NOTICES served	2
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER) ACT, 1878.

Water certificates have been granted in respect of the following number of new houses, the supplies being from public service, viz. ... 8

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885. 1

In this case the occupier has ceased to carry on the trade, and left the district.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies from public service for the year 1903, is 171 including eight for which Water Certificates have been granted in respect of new houses showing an increase of eight on the year.

TOWNSHIP OF HESKETH-WITH-BECCONSALL.

NUISANCES.

Want of drains for house refuse	...	...	...	...	7
Privies dilapidated, deficient, and filthy	...	...	...	...	10
Want of Ashpit	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspools overflowing and surroundings filthy	...	...	...	...	2
Ditches or Watercourses, foul and causing dampness...	...	...	...	...	8
Spouting dilapidated, causing dampness	...	...	...	...	4
Windows dilapidated and want of ventilation	...	...	...	...	1
Living room to dwelling in a foul condition	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 34
Notices served	...	...	...	...	25

PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER) ACT, 1878.

Water Certificates have been granted in respect of the following new houses the supplies being from public service, viz. :— 7
Premises occupied in contravention of the P. H. (W.) A. ... 2

The cause of such contravention was from want of main being laid, which was subsequently done, and water put on for domestic use.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies from public service for the year 1903, is 224 including seven for which water certificates have been granted in respect of new houses, showing an increase of 10 on the year.

EXTENSION OF WATER MAIN laid by the Council for the supply to new houses, and, for further intended erection 1,512 yards in length of 3in. pipes.

TOWNSHIP OF LYDIATE.

NUISANCES.

Want of Water for domestic use	...	...	...	...	2
Want of Drains for house refuse	...	...	...	...	6
Roof of Dwellings (thatch) dilapidated, causing dampness	...				2
Privies dilapidated, deficient, and filthy	...	..	...		2
Want of Ashpits	...	...	..	...	2
					—
					14
					—
NOTICES served	...	...	...	...	11

FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1901 2

There are two Bakehouses in this township which are now included in the above-named Act, and not reported upon separately as in the past. It was necessary to visit on twelve occasions, as notice had to be served to enforce Lime-washing.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885 1

On visiting these premises they have been found in a satisfactory condition.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies from public service for the year is 132 showing an increase of three on the year.

TOWNSHIP OF MAGHULL.

NUISANCES.

Privies and Ashpits dilapidated, deficient, too near, and filthy	11
Deficient Drainage for house refuse	6
Sink Waste Pipes dilapidated, untrapped, and connected with drain	7
Want of Privy and Ashpit	1
Defective receptacles to Privies, surroundings filthy ...	2
Roof of Dwellings dilapidated	4
Deposit of fish and other decomposing refuse	1
Drain stopped, and want of gully trap... ..	1
Cesspool and surroundings filthy	3
Defective state of yards, in a foul state	4
Privies and Ashpits in a foul condition	12
Interior of Dwelling filthy	1
Spouting dilapidated, causing dampness	4
Pigs kept so as to be a nuisance	3
Ditches or Watercourses polluted	4
	<hr/>
	64
	<hr/>
NOTICES served	31

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890.

Premises dealt with under the said Act, viz.	1
---	---

PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER) ACT, 1878.

Water Certificates have been granted in respect of the following number of new houses, the supplies being from public service, viz.	5
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FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1901.

Formerly Bakehouses were reported upon separately in the Annual Report, but they are now included under the above-named Act.

During the year there have been three premises registered after being made to comply with the sections of the Act referring thereto. Notices having to be served to enforce the doing of the required work, which caused a larger number of visits to be made than would have been necessary.

TRADE OR EMPLOYMENT AS FOLLOWS :—

Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Shoemaker	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							—
							4

With respect to the state of the premises, the following is the nature of the work required and carried out :—

Permanent Ventilation ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Spouting dilapidated, causing dampness	...	...	...	...	...	1
Roof dilapidated..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 6
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of visits made	...	...	...	...	...	17

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885.

There has been one transfer, which was granted, the premises being satisfactory, and one application for Registration: these premises not complying with the Regulations, Registration was refused until the following work was done, viz.—Ventilation and Limewashing.

There are now three persons Registered Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk: Premises satisfactory.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies from public service for the year 1903 is 249, including five for which water certificates have been granted to new houses, an increase of nine on the year.

TOWNSHIP OF MELLING.

NUISANCES.

Want of Water for domestic use	...	...	...	7
Want of Drains for house refuse	...	...	...	2
Privies and Ashpits dilapidated, deficient, and filthy...	...	...	...	6
Pigs kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	2

WATER CLOSETS with dry Ashpits	...	...	...	...	4
NOTICES served	...	...	...	...	7

WATER FOR ANALYSIS.

Samples obtained from open wells	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ from closed well pump attached	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					4
					—

PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER) ACT, 1878.

Water certificates have been granted in respect of the following					
new houses, supply public service :—	...	...	...	...	2
St. Helens Corporation pumping station	1
					—
					3
					—

Special reports on the waste of water	3
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DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885 2

One out of the number was a renewal of registration for new cowshed, which was granted after providing further ventilation, and a supply of water from public service.

Premises satisfactorily kept in a cleanly state.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies from public service for the Year 1903, is 183 including 2 for which water certificates have been granted to new houses showing an increase of 5 on the year.

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH MEOLS (BANKS).

NUISANCES.

Dilapidated roof of dwelling	...	...	...	...	1
Want of privies and ashpits	...	...	...	...	5
Privies and ashpits dilapidated, deficient and filthy	...	...	...	...	11
Want of drains for house refuse	...	...	...	...	10
Deficient middenstead, surroundings filthy	...	...	...	...	1
Premises filthy from deposits of refuse	...	...	...	...	5
Ditch or watercourse in a foul state	...	...	...	...	1
Want of water for domestic use	...	...	...	...	6

Dwelling in a foul condition	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drain stoppage	...	...	...	...	...	2
Want of gully trap	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspool defective	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 45
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	23

CARCASE OF MEAT.

The said carcase of meat was examined and found to be of poor quality, but no disease being visible was not seized.

FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1904 1

In the township there is 1 bakehouse which is included under the above named Act, "previously such premises were reported upon separately." The premises have been visited on 4 occasions and found satisfactory.

PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER) ACT, 1878.

Water certificate has been granted in respect of the following new house supply from public service ... 1

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885 1

These premises were registered on being made to comply with Regulation in force, viz:—drainage, ventilation, and water supply, which is from public service, the main being extended past the premises, "premises remarkably clean."

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies for the year 1903, is 358, including 1 for which water certificate has been granted to a new house, showing an increase for the year of 2.

TOWNSHIP OF RUFFORD.

NUISANCES.

Want of Privy and Ashpit	...	...	...	...	...	2
Want of Drains for house refuse	...	...	...	...	...	2
Privy defective and filthy	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ditch or watercourse in a foul state	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 6

NOTICES served	4
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

WATER FOR ANALYSIS.

Samples obtained from open wells	...	...	...	...	2
Sample from rain water tank	...	...	..	...	1
					<hr/> 3
					<hr/>

FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1901.

This Act came into force the 1st of January, 1902, and includes any place where hand labour is carried on, during the year the following premises have been registered on being made to comply with the sections of the Act referring thereto :—

TRADE OR EMPLOYMENT AS FOLLOWS :

Shoemaker	1
-----------	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

THE WORK REQUIRED AND CARRIED OUT :

Permanent Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 2
						<hr/>
Number of Visits	...	...	...	...	...	3

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885	3
--	---

The said premises have been found satisfactory at the time of visiting.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies for the year 1903 is 77.

TOWNSHIP OF SCARISBRICK.

NUISANCES.

Want of water for domestic use	...	...	...	...	8
Middenstead foul and too near dwelling	1
					<hr/> 9
					<hr/>
NOTICES served	6

WATER FOR ANALYSIS.

Samples from open wells	3
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PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER) ACT, 1878.

Water Certificates have been granted in respect of the following new houses, the supplies being from public service, viz.:... 13

FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1901 1

The Bakehouse in this township is included in the above-named Act, the premises being visited on five occasions and found satisfactory.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies for the year 1903 is 305, including 13 for which Water Certificates have been granted in respect of new houses, the supplies being public service, showing an increase of of 25 on the year.

EXTENSION OF WATER MAIN.

The Joint Water Board have laid during the year, for the purpose of supplying further water supplies, 1,939 yards in length.

TOWNSHIP OF SIMONSWOOD.

NUISANCES	Nil.
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I have had nothing to report during the year, neither have I received any complaints.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

The number of supplies for the year 1903 from public service is 38.

TOWNSHIP OF TARLETON.

NUISANCES.

Want of drains for house refuse	2
Want of subsoil drainage, dwelling damp	...	...	...	1
Privies deficient, and catchpit below surface	...	...	...	2
Ditches or watercourses filthy	...	...	...	3
Want of liquid tank for middenstead	...	...	...	1
Drain stoppage	...	...	...	2

Defective cesspool filthy	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective storm water drain, premises flooded	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dilapidated dwelling so damp as to be dangerous to health	...	...	...	...	...	1
Want of privy and ashpit	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dilapidated privies (wood), without receptacles for filth	...	...	...	...	...	3
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	1
Roof of dwellings dilapidated causing dampness	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pavement in yards defective and in a foul state	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pigs kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	2
						—
						28
						—
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	25

WATER FOR ANALYSIS.

Sample obtained from old open well	...	...	...	...	1
Sample from closed well with pump attached	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					2
					—

PUBLIC HEALTH (WATER) ACT, 1878.

Water Certificates have been granted in respect of the following number of new houses, the supplies being from public service, viz :—

...	7
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES. 3

These premises have been kept remarkably clean during the year, and I am pleased to report, that they have been free from infectious disease.

FACTORY, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES ACT, 1901.

This Act which came into operation on January 1st, 1902, included Bakehouses, therefore a separate report is not required, as in the former Annual Reports. During the year the following premises have been inspected and dealt with under the above named Act, and registered after being made to comply with the sections of the said Act referring thereto, viz :—

The number of places dealt with	...	...	...	5
„ „ „ visits to the premises	...	...	...	20

TRADE OR EMPLOYMENT AS FOLLOWS :—

Dressmaker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailor	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clogger	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								—
								5
								—

CLASS OF WORK REQUIRED AND CARRIED OUT :—

Permanent ventilation	3
Limewashing	1
								—
								4
								—

NOTICE SERVED TO ENFORCE compliance with the Act	...	1
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DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER, 1885. 5

In each case the Cowsheds etc., have been kept in a satisfactory condition through the year.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

The number of supplies for the year 1903 is 412, including 7 for which water Certificates have been granted to new houses.

I now give in Table Form the total number of matters dealt with in each Township as stated in the foregoing part of my Report.

TOWNSHIPS.	No. of matters dealt with from various sources.	Water Certificates granted under Public Health (Water) Act, 1878.	Premises occupied in contravention of Public Health (Water) Act, 1878.	Other supplies under Public Health Act, 1875.	Samples of Water for Analysis.	Overcrowding.	Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.	Special Reports	Inspection of Meat.	Factory & Workshops Act, 1901.	Registered Common Lodging-houses.	Registered Slaughter-houses.	Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885.	Scavenging—Removal of Privy and Ashpit Refuse.	Water Carriage.	Number of Notices served.	TOTALS.
ALTCAR.....	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	13
AUGHTON	121	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	8	...	2	15	686	17	47	899
BICKERSTAFFE.....	22	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	3	30
BISHAM	24	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	12	40
DOWNHOLLAND.....	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6
HALSALL	7	8	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	20
HESKETH-WITH- BECCONSALL... }	34	7	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	68
LYDIATE.....	14	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	11	30
MAGHULL.....	64	5	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	...	3	...	...	31	108
MELLING.....	17	3	...	7	4	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	4	7	47
NORTH MEOLS } (RURAL) }	45	1	...	6	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	23	78
RUFFORD.....	6	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	4	17
SCARISBRICK.....	9	13	...	8	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	6	40
SIMONSWOOD.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TARLETON	28	7	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	5	3	...	5	...	...	25	76
	401	46	2	29	15	1	1	4	1	24	3	2	32	686	21	204	1472

Many thanks for favours received during the year.

Yours truly,
JAMES PEACH, Sanitary Inspector.

To DR. GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, D.P.H., M.O.H.
8/2/1904.

WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TOWNSHIP OF AINSDALE.

To George E. Scholefield, Esq., M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

SIR,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Sixth Annual Report for the Township of Ainsdale, wherewith there is detailed the Sanitary Work carried out during the year 1903. Practically no improvements have taken place during the said period owing to the Parochial Committee desiring to keep as much structural work as possible in abeyance pending a sewerage system. This is practically a re-statement of my last Annual Report. During the year I attended the County Council Inquiry held at Birkdale, whereby Ainsdale is seeking to be amalgamated to the Urban District of Birkdale, and I understand one of the conditions embodied in the terms is that a Sewerage Scheme shall be commenced within six months from the date of amalgamation.

The condition of Rotunda Buildings and the drainage therefrom has again been constantly brought before the Committee and notices served on the owner. Legal proceedings have also been threatened, and the result being that the owner has consented to do the work required, if time was allowed for the making of new cesspools, when the subsoil water had become lower in the ground.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

The workshops have been duly visited during the year. Two buildings erected of wood have been reported upon, and the Committee have referred them to the Surveyor's department. One workshop has ceased to exist, and one workshop transferred.

Workshops on Register	...	...	...	12
Visits paid thereto...	...	..	...	12

COMMON LODGING AND SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

It is again a pleasure to report the freedom of either a Common Lodging House or Slaughter House in the Township.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

One new Dairy has been Registered during the year, and one Dairy ceased to sell milk during the winter months. Fifteen visits have been paid to them during the year. There are now three Dairies and three Dairies and Shippons in the township, all of which are Registered. The Dairies receive their supply of milk from outside the township. One Dairy was found having milk for sale without being Registered.

WATER CERTIFICATES.

Fourteen Water Certificates have been issued during the year for dwelling-houses. All of which are supplied by water from the mains of the Southport, Birkdale, and West Lancashire Water Board.

SCAVENGING.—REMOVAL OF NIGHT SOIL.

Difficulty has been found during the year to find contractors willing to do this work, and the cost for the year is in excess of the contract of 1902, the excess being proportionate with additional number emptied. In October the Committee undertook the emptying of the Pail Closets attached to the Undenominational and St. John's Schools.

Hereto I append the cost for 1902 and 1903 of this work, so that the increased cost may be easily ascertained.

1902.				£	s.	d.
419	Privy Ashpits emptied at 2/-	...	...	41	18	
	Disinfectants	...	...	1	19	8
				<hr/>		
				£43	17	8
				<hr/>		
1903.						
173	Privy Ashpits emptied at 2/-	...	...	17	6	0
270	" " " 2/3	...	...	30	7	6
55	" " " 2/6	...	...	6	17	6
				<hr/>		
498				<hr/>		
				<hr/>		

54 Pail Closets at 2d	...	...	...	...	0	9	0
1 „ „ „	...	...	...	...	0	1	0
Disinfectants	...	...	...	...	1	4	0
					<hr/>		
Total	...	...	...	...	£56	5	0
					<hr/>		

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

Rear of Dwelling-house in foul state cleansed	...	...	...	...	7
Cesspools in foul state cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Dilapidated Cesspools repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspool overflow connected to underground well abolished	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspool without ventilation remedied	...	...	...	...	3
New Interceptor fixed to drain	...	...	...	...	1
Drains under Houses removed	...	...	...	...	2
Drain under House laid all round in 6 in. of concrete	...	...	...	...	1
Foul rain water Cisterns under floors of houses removed	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Soil Pipes remedied	...	...	...	...	4
Defective W.C. abolished and new one affixed	...	...	...	...	1
Soil T Connection in House defective, same remedied	...	...	...	...	1
Rain water overflow disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Bell Trap Gullies removed and Earthenware	...	...	...	...
Trapped Gullies affixed	...	...	...	...	2
„ Pail in Closet removed and new one affixed	...	...	...	...	1
„ Foul Earth Closet cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Roof Water disconnected from cistern and made to discharge	...	...	...	...
into dry wells	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Foul Air Shaft remedied	...	...	...	...	1
„ Drains re-laid	...	...	...	...	2
Insufficient Foul Air Shafts removed and proper ones	...	...	...	...
affixed	...	...	...	...	2
Refuse removed from adjoining a dwelling-house	...	...	...	...	1
Bath and Sink Discharge Pipes where defective made good	...	...	...	...	2
					<hr/>
					40
					<hr/>

SUMMARY OF ALL MATTERS.

Nuisances remedied	...	...	...	...	...	40
Ventilation to Dairy	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water Certificates granted	...	...	...	...	...	14
Limewashing Notices, Dairies and Cowsheds issued	...	...	...	...	...	10
Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	4
Legal Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	7
Visits under Factory and Workshops Act, 1901	...	...	...	...	...	12
„ „ Dairies and Cowsheds Order	...	...	...	...	...	15
Ashpits emptied	...	...	...	...	...	498
Pail Closets emptied	...	...	...	...	...	55
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	656
						—

I am,

Yours respectfully,

E. H. BOND, Asso. San. Inst.,

January 20th, 1904.

Sanitary Inspector.

WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TOWNSHIP OF FORMBY.

To George E. Scholefield, Esq., M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

SIR,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Sixth Annual Report for the Township of Formby for the year 1903, and with it full details will be found of the various duties carried out during that period. The number of nuisances dealt with will be found to be less than the previous year, and this may be accounted for as follows :—The Parochial Committee, having regard to the sewerage of their township, have desired that as much structural work as possible should be left in temporary abeyance excepting where conditions if allowed to remain might have been immediately detrimental to health. Their wishes in this respect have been fully obeyed.

The Sewerage Scheme, which the Local Government Board held an inquiry into on the 8th and 9th April, 1902, received the Board's formal sanction on the 4th April of this year, and a tender for the carrying out of the scheme has now been accepted.

The sewerage should be the means of dealing with the sewage and also of lowering the subsoil water, and this together with the general abolition of cesspools, ought to improve the health of the township.

It is to be hoped that the work in connection therewith will be commenced without delay, and that the scheme will be successfully completed.

Dealing with the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, a full report will be found appended.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

I am pleased to report that there are no un-registered Dairies or Cowsheds in the township. Seventy visits were paid to them. One dairy-man has been reported upon for the filthy condition of his premises, and the Parochial Committee have now the matter under consideration. Registered number 32.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The two registered slaughter houses have also been duly inspected. One is registered annually.

OVERCROWDING AND COMMON LODDGING HOUSES.

Overcrowding was reported upon in three cases, and the occupiers removed on preliminary and legal notices being served upon them. It would be an advantage if the Council adopted bye-laws for "Houses let in Lodgings," whereby many houses in this township could be dealt with. Many of the houses being sub-let. It is again a pleasure to report the freedom of a common lodging-house in the township.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings have been ordered in six cases, but no further action was necessary.

WATER CERTIFICATES.

Water Certificates have been issued for 16 new dwellings. The water supply in all cases being from the mains of the Southport, Birkdale, and West Lancashire Water Boards mains.

SCAVENGING.—REMOVAL OF NIGHT-SOIL.

Increased scavenging has again been done during the year under the contract system, and at a less cost than the previous year. This is accounted for (1) by reason of the work being carried out at a lower rate than the preceding contract, and (2) by the increased number of ashbins emptied. This will bear out the information I laid before the Works Sub-committee that by

adopting a system of ashbins, in lieu of ashpits, a much more sanitary system would be in vogue, and also a uniform system of emptying could be adopted, and the work would not entail as much cost. The Works Sub-committee of the Formby Parochial Committee are therefore to be congratulated in adopting this system. Sixty-nine houses are now supplied with ashbins. The cost of emptying for 1902 and 1903 are herewith specified so that differences of cost may be noticed.

EXPENDITURE.

1902.	£	s.	d.
Privies and Ashpits emptied—1,657 at 2/- ...	165	14	0
Pail Closets emptied—9,340 at 2d. ...	77	16	8
Ashbins emptied—651 at 4d. ...	10	17	0
Seventeen cwts. Disinfectants ...	6	4	6
Rent of Field ...	2	2	0
	<hr/>		
	£262	14	2
<i>Cr.</i>			
Received for contents of Pails ...	13	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£249	14	2
<hr/>			
1903.	£	s.	d.
Privies and Ashpits emptied—1,585 at 1/9 ...	138	13	9
Pail Closets emptied—11,074 at 2d. ...	92	5	8
Ashbins emptied—1,641 at 3d. ...	20	10	3
Disinfectants ...	5	8	0
	<hr/>		
	£256	17	8
<i>Cr.</i>			
Received for contents of Pails and Privies ...	11	14	0
	<hr/>		
	£245	3	8
	<hr/>		

DRY ASHPIT REFUSE.

Acting on instructions of the Parochial Committee, the contents of dry Ashpits have again been deposited in Pasture Hey Lane and Range Lane. The number of loads deposited for the year being 385. In consequence of complaints received as to the Contractors mode of disposing of this refuse, 23 visits were paid by me, and the Contractor was reported for depositing privy contents. This being confirmed by you on a visit you made when I accompanied you on one occasion.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1903.

Ashpits abolished and galvanized iron ashbins substituted...	9
Ashbins supplied to dwelling-houses	14
Ashpits in foul state repaired and made good	6
Butler's pantry discharge pipe entering dry well near house, removed and made good	1
Cesspools in foul states cleansed	41
Cesspools—filth deposited near dwelling-house	1
Defective sink discharge pipes remedied	4
Sink discharge pipe emptying into dry well	1
Sink discharge pipe emptying into wood cesspools	1
Sink discharge pipe found leaking into rain water cistern...	7
Defective drains under dwelling-house removed	2
Rain water down spouts connected direct to drain and removed ... ..	...1
Defective drain joints remedied	10
Defective slop water closet and fittings removed	1
Defective bath fittings in interior of house removed	1
Polluted soil under dwelling-house removed	1
Defective soil pipes remedied	4
New foul air shafts erected to soil pipes	4
Insufficient foul air shafts abolished... ..	4
New W.C.'s and fittings affixed	2
Defective drains to wood cesspool removed	3
Defective drain under stables removed	1
New drainage to dwelling-houses laid	14
Defective pails to privies abolished	11

Uncemented privies below ground abolished and converted to pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective and uncemented cesspools made good	...	...	...	...	...	3
New cesspools built where none existed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cesspool filth near dwelling-house removed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Yards of dwelling-houses in filthy state cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses overcrowded and tenants removed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wood cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rain water cistern in bedroom in house removed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Watercourses in foul states cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water supply laid on to dwelling-house in lieu of well water	...	...	...	...	...	5
Refuse deposited in highway caused to be removed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dampness in houses and roofs remedied	..	...	...	...	...	3
Rain water cisterns provided for dwelling-houses	...	..	...	...	...	2
Ashphalte damp courses in dwelling-houses laid	...	...	...	...	...	2
Concrete floors laid under damp site in dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pig-stye in foul state cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Soil pipe joints defective, same remedied	...	...	...	...	...	4
New galvanized pails to privies provided	...	...	...	...	...	14
Total						201

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

I have the honour to submit my First Annual Report of the Workshops in the township. During the past year the whole of them have been inspected and re-inspected; the total number of visits amounting to 140. They comprise eight bakehouses, fourteen dressmakers, two laundries, six joiners, two smiths, eight shoemakers, two cycle repairers, two wheelwrights, and two tailors—comprising in all 46.

In the months of March and April their various conditions were fully reported to the Parochial Committee, and afterwards their names placed on the Register Book. It has been a matter of some difficulty dealing with a few where drainage was required, having regard to the sewerage system being about to be com-

menced for the township, and the Parochial Committee, bearing this in mind, have without prejudice deferred registration with these with a view of not adding unavoidable expenses to the owners or occupiers, and each of the occupiers of these premises have been notified accordingly. Of the eight bakehouses six are without drainage, two had no W.C. or privy accommodation, five with insufficient ventilation—one was in a filthy state and had water supplied to it from a condemned well. Extension of time was granted in one case to allow house to be vacated, otherwise the bakehouse would have been condemned. In all cases they are now supplied with the Water Board's water, and with one exception males are employed. There are no underground bakehouses in the township. Males employed, 13; females, 2—one under 18 years. Dressmakers workshops:—Twelve were found clean, two dirty, one damp, one fair order, thirteen with no efficient ventilation, and three overcrowded.

Forty-one females work therein, of whom 13 were under 18 years, and one under 14 years of age. Men's workshops:—Two had wood privies adjoining workshops and one a wood urinal. One was in a damp state and dirty, and occupier removed; two others were in a dirty state. Seven were unlimewashed, and one in a dilapidated condition and unfit to work in. Of the two laundries, one is newly erected, and was found with privy built adjoining same, and with no separate accommodation for sexes, and has not had the drainage completed. The Committee have again in this case deferred registration for reason similarly mentioned regarding bakehouses. Regarding the other portion it consists of an old wooden erection—drainage was bad, and no precautions against fire. These premises are being vacated rather than comply with the requirements. The various work carried out is fully detailed herewith.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

BAKEHOUSES.

Efficient ventilation provided	...	...	...	5
Interior woodwork re-painted	...	...	...	8

Privy accommodation provided	...	...	...	2
Interiors re-limewashed, including ceilings	...	...	...	7
Old drains removed under floors	...	...	...	1
Old pump removed	...	...	...	1
Board's water laid on...	...	...	...	1
				— 25

DRESSMAKERS.

New workrooms provided	...	...	...	2
Workrooms cleansed	...	...	...	2
Efficient ventilation provided	...	...	...	13
Overcrowding removed	...	...	...	3
				— 20

LAUNDRIES.

Privy adjoining building removed	...	...	...	1
New privies erected, with separate arrangements for sexes	...	...	...	2
Drain under floor removed	...	...	...	1
				— 4

MEN'S WORKSHOPS.

Wooden privies adjoining workshops removed	...	...	...	2
Wooden urinal abolished	...	...	...	1
New privies erected	...	...	...	2
New urinal erected	...	...	...	1
Workshops cleansed	...	...	...	1
Workshops limewashed	...	...	...	19
Dilapidated workshop made sanitary	...	...	...	1
Damp workshop closed	...	...	...	1
				— 28
				—
Total	...	...	...	77
				—

SUMMARY.

Improvements effected	...	..	...	...	...	77
Legal notices served	...	...	...	...	...	2
Preliminary notices served	...	...	...	...	...	24
Registration Cards issued	..	...	...	...	...	37
Visits of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	140
Grand total						280

GENERAL SUMMARY OF ALL MATTERS DEALT WITH.

Nuisances remedied under Public Health Act, 1875...	201					
" " " Factory and Workshops						
Act, 1901	...	...	...	...	...	77
						278
Legal notices served	...	...	...	...	...	9
Preliminary notices served	...	...	...	...	...	71
Registration Cards issued	...	...	...	..	...	37
Limewashing notices issued	...	...	...	...	...	64
Visits paid—Factory and Workshops Act	...	...	...	...	...	140
" " Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	70
" " Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	...	4
" " Deposit sites	...	...	...	...	...	23
Ashpits and privies emptied	...	...	...	...	...	1,585
Ashbins emptied	...	...	...	...	...	1,641
Pail closets emptied	...	...	...	...	...	11,074
Water Certificates issued	...	...	...	...	...	16
Total of all matters						15,012

I am,

Yours respectfully,

E. H. BOND, Asso. San. Inst.,
Sanitary Inspector.

January 29th, 1904.

ANNUAL REPORT ON CANAL BOATS FOR THE YEAR
1903.

*To the Chairman and Members of the West Lancashire
Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

The method of *inspection* usually adopted by the Inspector is to board the boat when on a voyage, as at that time the occupants are unprepared for his visit, but he also inspects boats that he finds tied up.

Mr. James Peach, of Knowsley Road, Ormskirk, is the Inspector, and he receives £10 per annum as *remuneration* for his work.

The *number* of boats inspected during the year was 53, and the condition of them and their occupants, with one exception, was satisfactory.

The *condition as to cleanliness* was in 44 cases *very good*, in 8 cases *very fair*, and in one case *fair*.

The *condition as to repairs* was *very good* in 50 cases, *very fair* in two cases, and *fair* in one case.

There was no *infringement of the Acts and Regulations* with respect to *Registration, Notification of Change of Master, Marking, Overcrowding, Separation of the Sexes, Cleanliness, Ventilation, Provision of Water Cask, Removal of Bilge Water, Notification of Infectious Disease, Admittance of Inspector.*

No *Legal Proceedings* have been taken during the year.

Dr. Hope, Medical Officer of Health for Liverpool, having sent an intimation to your Medical Officer of Health that a case of Smallpox had been removed from the "Perch," of Liverpool, owned by Messrs. Richard Evans & Co.—master, Richard Horton—while lying in Liverpool; the Inspector visited the boat on January 9th. He found that disinfection had been carried out by the officials of the Corporation, there being a certificate to that

effect, signed by Dr. Hope, produced by the master. After discharging cargo, the boat proceeded to Edge Green, Nr. Wigan, Medical Officer of Health being notified of the case. There was *no Certificate on board*, the master stating that it had been taken away by the Liverpool Inspector, who was to provide another on the boat's return to that place.

On May 2nd the Inspector visited the "Elizabeth Jane," of Wigan, owner, John Sutton, Tarleton—master, Richard Iddon—and found that the master had left the boat ill, the illness proving to be Enteric Fever. The owner was ordered to disinfect the cabin and to re-paint it, and on visiting again on the 6th this was found to have been carried out satisfactorily.

On June 27th, the "Neata," of Wigan, owners, the Midland Pottery Co.—master, Thomas Sharrock—was found to be in only a fair condition as regards *cleanliness and repairs*. The Inspector recommended re-painting.

No cases of *Infectious Disease* other than the foregoing have been discovered during the year.

It has not been found necessary to detain any other boat for *cleansing and disinfection*.

Ten children have been found on board during the year.

We are, Gentlemen, Your obedient Servants,

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, Medical Officer of Health.

JAMES PEACH, Inspector of Canal Boats.

West Lancashire Rural District Council.

GENERAL RULES

TO BE OBSERVED IN THE

Management of Infectious Diseases

1. The patient should be separated as completely as possible from the other inmates of the house ; or, better still, removed to the Isolation Hospital. First cases should always be removed to hospital.
2. Remember that the danger of infection is the same in all cases, whether mild or severe.
3. The sickroom should be made as bare as possible by the removal of all bed-curtains, carpets, and unnecessary articles of furniture.
4. The sickroom should be well ventilated ; the windows should be kept partly open when the weather permits, and a fire burning.

5. The door should be kept closed, and a sheet hung over it and kept wet with the disinfectant solution. Disinfectants may be had, free of charge, from the Sanitary Inspectors—Mr. Peach, Ormskirk, and Mr. E. H. Bond, Formby.

6. If possible, the nurse should be one who has had the disease. She should wear washing clothes, and always wash and disinfect her hands and face, and change her shoes and outer clothes after leaving the sickroom.

7. No food or drink which has been in the same room as the patient should be used by anyone else. It should be burned.

8. Plates, cups, spoons, clothes and anything else brought from the sickroom should be placed in disinfectant solution for at least half-an-hour, and afterwards washed in water by themselves.

9. The patient's discharges should be received into a vessel containing a disinfectant. In cases of typhoid fever, the disinfectant should be Izal, supplied gratuitously on application to the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspectors, and should be used according to the directions printed on the label of each bottle.

10. Pieces of rags should be used instead of handkerchiefs, and burned immediately after use.

11. When scales or crusts form upon the skin, it should be kept well smeared with carbolic oil or grease.

12. No visitors should be allowed.

13. The patient should not be allowed to sleep in the same room as any healthy person until at least a fortnight after apparently complete recovery.

14. The Medical Officer of Health should be informed when the illness is at an end, when a van will be sent to remove the bedding and clothes for disinfection, and will afterwards bring them back.

16. The whole of the house should be kept well ventilated, clean, and in good sanitary order throughout the illness.

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

AUGHTON, NR. ORMSKIRK.

PENALTIES.

1. For failing to notify the Medical Officer of Health of cases of any of the following diseases :— Smallpox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, the disease known as Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever, and the Fevers known by any of the following names :— Typhus, Typhoid, Enteric, Relapsing, Continued, or Puerperal £2

2. For entering any street, public place, shop, inn, or public conveyance while in an infectious state £5

3. For exposing any infected person in any street, public place, shop, inn, or public conveyance ... £5

4. For giving, lending, transmitting, or exposing any article without disinfection £5

5. For casting infected rubbish without previous disinfection into any ashpit or other receptacle for refuse £5

6. For ceasing to occupy infected houses or rooms without previous disinfection of them and their contents, or giving notice to the owner of the previous occurrence of infectious disease in them ... £10

7. For making a false statement to an owner or prospective tenant as to there having been within a house or room during a previous period of six weeks any person suffering from an infectious disease £10

8. For letting an infected room or premises without disinfection to the satisfaction of a qualified medical practitioner £20

9. For making a false statement to a prospective tenant as to their being, or having been within a previous period of six weeks, an infected person in a house or part of a house exposed for hire ...Imprisonment with or without hard labour, or £20

West Lancashire Rural District Council.

SCARLET FEVER.

It is dangerous and illegal to send any Child or Person who has suffered from this Fever, or any other dangerous Infectious Disease, to School, or into any public place, until free from infection, however mild the case may be. PENALTY—Not exceeding FIVE POUNDS.

The Law requires that every person in charge of such a case should give immediate notice of existence thereof to the Medical Officer of Health, whether this has been already done by a Medical Man or not. PENALTY for neglect to give this notice is a sum not exceeding FORTY SHILLINGS.

The District Council provides hospital accommodation for infected cases, and disinfects Clothing, Bedding, &c., when necessary, at the public expense. All persons living within the District are at liberty to avail themselves of these provisions.

When a Scarlet Fever patient is nursed at home, no child from the same house should attend School.

Personal infection continues until peeling is completed, and this is seldom the case until SIX WEEKS after the date of rash. The soles of the feet are usually the last parts to become clear.

As soon as the peeling is over, a Medical Certificate to this effect should be obtained, and forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health.

By Order of the District Council.

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD, M.D., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
AUGHTON, NR. ORMSKIRK.