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Contributors

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West Lancashire Rural District
— Council. —



- Annual Report -

FOR THE YEAR 1913.



Medical Officer of Health:

GEORGE EDWARD SCHOLEFIELD,

M.D. Edin., D.P.H. Vict.

West Lancashire Rural District Council, 1913.

Chairman .. HENRY UNDERWOOD.

Vice-Chairman .. JOHN PIMBLEY.

Altcar	CHARLES HY. MILBOURN.
Aughton	HENRY UNDERWOOD.
„	RICHARD ROTHWELL.
Bickerstaffe	RICHARD RIMMER.
„	THOMAS HEYES.
Bispham	THOMAS ASPINWALL.
Downholland	JOB SUMNER.
Halsall	JOHN HARRISON.
Hesketh	DAVID RIMMER.
Lydiate	JAMES G. BLACKLEDGE.
Maghull	JOHN PIMBLEY.
Melling	EDWARD SERVICE.
North Meols	JOHN WAREING.
Rufford	CHARLES YATES.
Scarisbrick	BERNARD H. HOLMAN.
„	PETER RIMMER.
Simonswood	JOHN HESKETH (deceased).
„	JAMES HEYES.
Tarleton	ROBERT LATHAM.

Annual Report for 1913

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

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Sixteenth Annual Report, dealing with the Vital Statistics, the Public Health, and the Sanitary Work of the District during the year 1913.

Changes have taken place in the personnel of the Council, Mr. Richard Rothwell having taken the place of Mr. J. M. Woods for Aughton, Mr. Thomas Aspinwall that of Mr. Lawrence Ashcroft for Bispham, Mr. Charles Yates that of Mr. T. Lyon for Rufford, Mr. Bernard H. Holman that of Mr. Henry Freeman for Scarisbrick. Mr. John Hesketh the Councillor for Simonswood died during the year, his loss being very much regretted, and Mr. James Heyes took his place.

Another loss was sustained in the death of Mr. James Peach, who for 32 years had been your Inspector of Nuisances, during which time his straightforward and genial personality had made him respected and liked by all with whom he had to work.

Mr. T. G. H. Hunter, the junior Inspector, was promoted to his place, and Mr. James Ainsworth was appointed as second Inspector.

POPULATION.—This is calculated on the number of Inhabited Houses in the District, and this number as supplied to me by the Assistant Overseers, was, at the end of the year, 4,459, and on this basis I estimate the population at the middle of the year to have been 20,782, an increase over the previous year of 38.

Altcar, Aughton, Bickerstaffe, Hesketh, Melling, Rufford, Simonswood, and Tarleton, showed an increase in population, while Halsall, Lydiate, Maghull, North Meols, and Scarisbrick, showed a decrease.

The residents in the various Institutions number 408, and this number is deducted in arriving at the various rates that follow.

BIRTH-RATE.—The number of BIRTHS registered during the year was 411, 194 boys and 217 girls, which gives an ANNUAL BIRTH-RATE of 20.12 per 1000 of the population, which is 1.61 lower than that for the previous year, and 2.32 less than the average of the ten preceding years. It is also the lowest Birth-rate recorded. Four of the Births were illegitimate being .9 per cent of the total Births.

DEATH-RATE.—Two hundred and thirty-six DEATHS were registered as having occurred in the District, to which number must be added those 20 which occurred in the Ormskirk Workhouse, 7 in Liverpool Hospitals, 3 in the County Asylum, Lancaster, 3 in Southport Infirmary, 1 in the County Asylum, St. Helens, and 1 in Ormskirk, while 1 in the Epileptic Homes,

Maghull, 1 in the Southport Isolation Hospital, situated in Rural North Meols, 3 belonging to Liverpool, 2 to Ormskirk, 1 to Walton, and 1 to St. Helens, must be deducted. This gives a net total of 262, of which number 132 were males, and 130 females. The resulting Annual Death-rate calculated as in previous years is 12·85 per 1,000, which is 2·33 higher than that for 1912, and ·05 higher than the average of the ten preceding years. This Death-rate has, according to instructions issued by the Registrar General, to be standardised, and the result is that the rate becomes 12·56 per 1,000 of the population instead of 12·85.

EPIDEMIC DEATH-RATE.—The seven principal Epidemic Diseases were responsible for 18 deaths :—Diphtheria 6, Scarlet Fever 2, Measles 4, Diarrhœa 6. The Annual rate is ·88, that for 1912 being ·63, and the average of the ten preceding years being ·85.

INFANTILE MORTALITY-RATE. — Thirty-nine deaths of children under the age of one year were registered, one in Ormskirk Workhouse must be added, and one belonging to Liverpool deducted, giving 39 net. This number gives an Annual Infantile Mortality-rate of 94 per 1,000 Births, that for 1912 being 67, and the average of the ten preceding years 93. One of these infants was illegitimate being 2·5 per cent. of the total infantile deaths.

On page 9 is a table which give the rates for various diseases, with those for the previous ten years for comparison. It may be mentioned that the rates for Phthisis Pulmonalis, Measles, Diphtheria, Premature Birth, and Cancer, are all above the average.

There were 90 deaths of persons over the age of 65 years, being 34 per cent. of the total number of deaths.

The table following 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.

	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	23·9	13·4	...	109
Rural England & Wales	22·2	12·1	..	96
Lancashire .....	...	12·6	1·37	...
Urban Lancashire .....	...	12·8	...	...
Rural Lancashire .....	...	11·6	...	...
West Lancashire Rural District	20·12	12·56	·88	94

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

1913.	Average.	Population estimated to middle of 1913.	Number of Inhabited Houses 1913.	Birth-Rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Death-Rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Epidemic D'th-rate per 1000 living.	Average of previous ten years.	Infant Mortality per 1000 Births.	Average of previous ten years.
ALTCAR	4,448	478	93	16.73	17.62	8.36	11.60	—	.95	125	117
AUGHTON	4,611	3,698	814	19.20	24.40	8.92	11.87	1.08	.81	112	82
BICKERSTAFFE	6,452	2,039	394	25.50	24.75	11.77	12.44	.98	.72	134	82
BISHAM	926	270	60	7.40	18.92	3.70	14.68	—	1.40	—	77
DOWNHOLLAND	3,474	670	149	19.40	21.10	19.40	14.54	1.49	.59	153	121
HALSALL	6,994	1,448	315	17.95	26.17	13.12	11.75	.69	.88	115	91
HESKETH	4,871	1,121	268	19.62	27.63	11.59	13.94	2.67	1.14	—	69
LYDIATE	1,994	1,046	218	22.94	22.92	17.20	14.46	.95	1.25	41	78
MAGHULL	2,099	1,734	297	15.83	21.12	21.11	13.67	.75	1.29	142	105
MELLING	2,118	1,069	212	20.58	27.30	10.29	13.28	.93	1.39	45	121
NORTH MEOLS	3,892	1,839	420	21.20	26.90	10.87	12.44	1.08	1.11	103	106
RUFFORD	3,122	804	187	18.65	18.81	16.17	13.32	—	.26	200	97
SCARISBRICK	8,397	2,253	491	17.31	19.75	17.31	12.70	.44	.48	88	89
SIMONSWOOD	2,644	300	63	16.66	17.67	3.33	11.54	—	.89	—	79
TARLETON	5,558	2,013	478	24.83	24.86	11.42	13.81	.49	.60	100	118
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT	61,600	20,782	4,459	20.12	22.44	12.56	12.80	.88	.85	94	93

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

TOWNSHIP.	Smallpox.			Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Membranous Group.			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.							
ALTCAR	24	37	..			
AUGHTON	88	27	4				
BICKERSTAFFE	40	83	2				
BISPHAM				
DOWNHOLLAND			
HALSALL			
HESKETH			
LYDIATE			
MAGHULL			
MELLING		
NORTH MEOLS		
RUFFORD	
SCARISBRICK	
SIMONSWOOD	
TARLETON
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT.....	74	102	245	55	6	7	7	198	311	4	15	27	6	6	6	8	8	1	353	516	19

∞

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT FROM 1903 TO 1913.

	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Mean of 10 years, 1903 to 1912.	Mean of England & Wales, 1902 to 1911.
Estimated Population	20,163	20,445	20,506	20,109	20,318	20,208	20,156	20,486	20,684	20,744	20,782	20,391	...
Birth Rate, per 1000 living	23.31	23.77	24.04	24.11	20.11	24.71	21.68	22.55	20.76	21.73	20.12	22.44	27.13
Death Rate	12.90	13.20	11.99	14.07	12.94	14.35	13.29	11.27	13.51	10.52	12.56	12.80	15.20
Epidemic Death Rate	1.04	1.17	.63	1.19	.78	.79	.34	.53	1.45	.63	.88	.85	1.58
Smallpox .....	.09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.009	.01
Measles .....	.04	.44	...	.14	.14	...	.09	.09	.09	.09	.19	.10	.31
Scarlet Fever .....	...	.04	.04	.14	.19	.14	...	...	.04	.09	.09	.07	.08
Diphtheria .....	.09	...	.09	.04	.09	.04	.04	.19	.18	.29	.28	.11	.15
Whooping Cough .....	.14	.29	.09	.14	.09	.34	.09	.14	.14	...	...	.14	.27
Heart Diseases .....	.61	1.66	.87	1.31	1.67	1.98	1.28	1.22	1.38	1.18	1.20	1.32	1.42
Enteric Fever .....	.24	.09	.19	.14	.04	.08	...	...	.04	...	...	.06	.07
Diarrhoea .....	.24	28	.19	.54	.19	.14	.09	.09	.94	.14	.28	.28	.57
Premature Birth	49	.29	.34	.14	.44	.44	.49	.53	.69	.63	.62	.42	.57
Erysipelas .....	...	.09	...	...	...	...	.14	...	.09	...	.04	.03	.02
Influenza .....	.44	.24	.09	...	.24	.49	.24	.09	.18	.09	.14	.11	.23
Puerperal Fever .....	.14	...	.14	.04	...	.08	...	...	...	...	...	.04	.03
Rheumatic Fever .....	.09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.09	...	.04	.01	.06
Pulmonary Phthisis .....	.74	.83	1.07	.84	.54	.84	.94	.73	.64	.39	.91	.75	1.14
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	1.53	2.15	1.90	1.84	2.26	1.88	3.02	1.56	2.36	1.91	1.58	2.04	2.43
Cancer .....	.84	.48	.63	.84	.64	.69	1.19	.86	.64	.73	1.29	.76	.90
Violence, Accident, and Suicide .....	.64	.51	.73	1.09	.78	.79	.69	.58	.54	.59	.50	.69	.54
Old Age	1.48	1.02	1.12	1.88	1.47	1.53	1.28	1.17	1.14	1.37	1.25	1.34	.93
Infant Mortality, per 1000 Births	95	113	103	93	84	98	100	77	104	67	94	93	126

Table showing the number of Cases of Infectious Disease which came to the knowledge of the Sanitary Authority during the years 1902 to 1913, and also the number of Houses infected and the Deaths that occurred.

Year	Smallpox.			Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria and Membranous Group.			Enteric Fever.			Erysipelas.			Typhoid Fever.			Totals.			Measles.			Whooping Cough.			Diarrhea 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.			
1902	1	2	...	49	89	4	12	12	5	10	10	3	14	14	1	4	4	2	90	131	15	141	218	1	15	18	8	3	3	3	159	23	12
1903	7	15	2	34	46	0	10	17	2	17	24	6	5	5	0	4	4	3	77	111	13	39	79	1	12	15	3	6	6	6	57	100	10
1904	57	77	1	1	1	0	12	12	2	6	6	2	...	...	...	76	95	52	30	331	9	64	97	6	6	6	6	300	434	21
1905	55	83	1	12	14	2	13	15	4	7	7	0	3	3	3	90	122	10	131	196	0	2	2	2	4	4	4	137	202	6
1906	32	39	3	7	7	1	18	22	3	9	9	0	1	1	1	67	78	8	95	145	3	3	3	3	11	11	11	109	159	17
1907	40	83	4	12	14	2	5	5	1	7	7	...	...	...	64	109	72	12	430	3	19	28	2	4	4	4	225	462	9	
1908	49	73	3	4	4	1	9	22	2	8	9	...	3	3	2	73	111	8	3	3	..	165	257	7	3	3	3	171	263	10
1909	45	82	0	13	13	1	5	6	...	14	14	3	...	...	...	77	115	4	192	307	2	13	15	2	1	2	2	206	324	6
1910	44	56	0	26	31	4	7	7	...	11	11	...	1	1	..	89	106	4	82	135	2	116	148	3	2	2	2	200	285	7
1911	45	58	1	35	4	4	12	12	1	1	10	2	...	...	...	102	123	8	17	37	2	39	47	3	18	19	19	74	103	24
1912	69	95	2	19	24	6	2	3	...	11	11	...	2	2	...	103	135	8	106	147	2	...	...	...	3	3	3	109	150	5
1913	74	102	2	45	55	6	7	7	...	8	8	1	...	...	...	134	172	9	198	311	4	15	27	..	6	6	6	219	344	10

The figures given in this table differ from those given in the Annual Reports previous to 1905, as the returns for Ainsdale and Formby are not included.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

On page 8 will be found a Table giving the number of cases of Infectious Disease which came to my knowledge during the year, the number of Houses which were infected, and the number of Deaths due to those diseases. This table also allocates the cases to the different Townships in which they occurred. Also on page 10 will be found another Table, which gives for comparison the number of cases which were known to be in the District for each of the ten preceding years. From the first Table it will be seen that there were 516 cases in 353 separate houses with 19 deaths. In comparison with the previous year this is an increase of 231 cases, 141 houses, and 6 deaths. Respecting the individual diseases there were 7 more cases of Scarlet Fever, 31 more of Diphtheria, 4 of Enteric Fever, 164 more of Measles, 27 of Whooping Cough, and 3 more deaths due to Diarrhoea.

In addition to the usual notifications from Medical Practitioners the Officials of Schools notified to me 311 cases of Measles, 27 cases of Whooping Cough, 3 cases which on being visited proved to be Scarlet Fever, and inquiry brought to light 2 cases of Scarlet Fever.

SMALLPOX.

No cases of this disease occurred during the year. Should we have any in the District we can send them to Liverpool, or if necessary the tent hospital can be erected very quickly.

SCARLET FEVER.

HOUSES, 74. CASES, 102. DEATHS, 2.

The Townships affected were:—Aughton, 42 houses, 59 cases; Bickerstaffe 1 house, 2 cases, 1 death; Hesketh, 3 houses, 3 cases; Lydiate, 5 houses, 6 cases, 1 death; Rufford,

5 houses, 5 cases ; Scarisbrick, 14 houses, 22 cases ; Tarleton, 4 houses, 5 cases. It will be seen that Aughton and Scarisbrick were the Townships that suffered most, and in connection with the former it may be noticed that the disease was more or less prevalent from January to November, there being intervals of from two to five weeks between cases and groups of cases. Thirty-four of the cases were attending the Parochial Schools at Holt Green, and 6 others were in houses from which other children were attending that school. There were 12 cases in January and February, the first being ill for three days before a Medical Man was called in, and during two of these days other children were attending the school ; it is probable that this was the responsible factor as far as the other 11 cases were concerned. On February 11th, the Infant Department of the school was closed on account of an outbreak of Measles, and on the 13th the other department was also closed, the school not being re-opened until March 25th., and during this period there was no further cases of Scarlet Fever, but three weeks after the re-opening the disease appeared again, and continued at intervals until November. It was very evident that closure of the school was ineffective, and it was unfortunate that it was required on account of Measles, as during that time, it is probable that there were missed cases, or otherwise a case or cases of Scarlet Fever were considered to be Measles. Every known case of Measles was carefully inquired into, all cases of absence from school were followed up, children that were at all suspicious of being carriers were excluded. All the children in school were on several occasions examined for signs of desquamation with a negative result, and after each fresh outbreak the schools were disinfected, in all thirteen times. Among the children attending Christ Church Schools there were 6 cases, and 4 in houses from which other children attended the school ; there were no features about the cases which call for special comment, as there was no appearance at any time of the disease becoming epidemic in the school. The Township of Scarisbrick had 22 cases in 14 houses, the disease appearing in April and continuing until October. The earlier

cases attended the Township School and the later ones St. Mary's R.C. One case which was unrecognised was undoubtedly responsible for several of the later cases. It is probable that the six cases in Lydiate were connected with the Aughton Parochial School outbreak, as 3 of the children attended that school, and one of the others was employed at a house from which children attended that school and she was probably the means of communicating the disease to the other two.

DIPHThERIA.

HOUSES, 45. CASES, 55. DEATHS, 6.

This disease was much more prevalent than during the previous year, there being 31 more cases. The Township of Hesketh suffered most, having 37 of the 55 cases, and in connection with the outbreak I considered it advisable to write a Special Report which is included herewith. After the period covered by this report there were 6 further cases, 3 children attending Hesketh Bank School, another was the school cleaner, and a fifth, about which there was some doubt, a teacher in the school; the other case attended a school in Preston. In the house where the last of the afore-mentioned 3 children resided, I found a sister with nasal discharge, and on taking a swab from the nose many Klebs-Loeffler Bacilli were found, and swabs taken at intervals up to the end of the year were all reported upon as being positive. After the school cleaner contracted the disease I took samples of the dust from the beams of the school and had them examined for Diphtheria Bacilli, but none were found. The cases in the other Townships occurred at intervals, and there were no special features about them.

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

GENTLEMEN,

Diphtheria having been so prevalent in the Township of Hesketh during the early part of the year, I consider it advisable to present a Special Report on the subject.

Previous to 1912 there had been in 22 years 9 cases in the Township, 2 in 1894, 1 in 1895, 1 in 1898, 1 in 1899, 3 in 1903, and 1 in 1908, these figures showing that the disease had not been prevalent during that time.

In May 1912, 3 cases in different parts of the Township were notified, one of which was fatal. In June there were 3 cases in one house, and another child in this house had previously been ill with what was supposed to be Spasmodic Croup. In August there was another fatal case, and a further case in October. With the exception of 2 of the June cases, aged 3 years and 1 year respectively, all the children attended the Hesketh Bank School.

On October 13th, the death of a child occurred which was certified as being due to Spasmodic Croup, and on December 17th another, which was certified as Croup. Careful inquiry was made into each of these cases, but nothing was elicited which suggested an alteration of the diagnosis, though it was significant in connection with the case of December 7th, that there had been a case of Diphtheria in the same house in May.

On December 21st the case of a youth aged 18 was notified, and on January 6th, 1913, another case. Following these, 9 cases were notified between January 12th and January 21st, and between February 10th and February 20th, 8 more. Two cases were notified at the end of March, and 2 in April. There were 3 cases in June, 4 in July, and 5 in August.

The cases of December 21st and January 6th were not attending school, but the 9 other cases in January and the 8 in February all attended the school. At Hesketh Bank, neither of the 2 cases in March were attending school, but both the April cases were. The 3 cases in June did not attend; the 4 in July were all attending, 2 at Hesketh Bank, and 2, in the same house, at Tarleton. The 5 cases in August occurred while the school was closed for holidays.

Of the 9 cases in 1912, 3 were in 1 house, and the others as far as could be ascertained had no connection with each other, but when we come to January it was evident that the disease was spreading through the school, and especially in one class-room. I discovered that 1 girl in this class-room had suffered from slight sore throat during the holidays, and a swab taken from her throat contained the Klebs-Loeffler Bacillus.

I advised that the school should be closed from January 18th to February 3rd, and during that time that the school should be disinfected and cleaned. One case was notified on the 21st, after which there were no others until 7 days after the school reopened, when, as 6 cases occurred within 4 days, I advised that the school be closed again from February 17th to March 17th, during which period it was again disinfected, cleaned, colour washed and painted throughout.

I also advised the Council that swabs should be taken from the throats of all the children attending the Hesketh Bank School, whether they had been ill or not. This was done and it was found that 22 children had the Klebs-Loeffler Bacillus in their throats and 33 the Hoffman Bacillus. In all 277 swabs were taken, and 28 of these contained the Klebs-Loeffler Bacillus and 40 the Hoffman Bacillus, 209 being reported on as being free from either. Further I advised that no child should return to school until a swab from his or her throat was reported to be free from both the foregoing bacilli. I also

advised that the Sunday Schools should be subject to the same conditions as the Day Schools, and these were also disinfected. A bazaar also that should have been held in the school buildings was postponed.

No further cases were notified until near the end of March, 1 being in a house were the first of the 1912 fatal cases occurred, and the other in a house where the second 1912 fatal case and also the first January case had occurred. The 2 cases in April were both in houses where there had been previous cases. On June 20th a child aged 3 years, two days later a girl aged 17, and on July 16th a girl of 12, all in the same house, were notified to be suffering from the disease; also on June 28th, another child of 3 years, having no connection either with the others or with the school. On July 13th, 2 cases were notified, 1 attending Hesketh Bank School and 1 Tarleton School, and on July 29th, another case attending Hesketh Bank School. Of the 5 cases in August 1 worked in a smithy, 3 attended Hesketh Bank School, and 1 Tarleton School. Both schools were, however, closed at the time for holidays. One of the cases was the second in the house, and another was a girl who had a previous attack in March, and made the fourth case in the house within 12 months.

From May, 1912, eighteen cases occurred in 7 houses, 13 were in houses recently built, and 20 in old houses that were not in a proper state of repair, with surroundings not as cleanly as could be desired.

From May, 1912, the climatic conditions were such as to keep the ground, which is of a heavy clayey nature, more or less wet, and this was probably one of the factors which helped in the spread of the disease.

In January and February the school at Hesketh Bank was the chief factor, as when the school was first closed the cases ceased, to commence again when the school reopened,

and to cease when the school was again closed. The number of children in whose throats infective bacilli were found was significant. Of the 16 cases since February, 6 only were attending Hesketh Bank School at the time of the attack, and 1 the Tarleton School, the others either not being of school age or absent for other reasons. As there were other possible causes for 3 out of the 6 attending the Hesketh Bank School it seems unlikely that this school was the cause of the cases during the summer. Seeing that the later cases were more or less isolated from each other, and that there was no apparent cause that was common to them, it is possible that the cause was owing to the dry weather in June, July, and August, which may have caused the infective bacilli to be blown about with the dust.

Of the 42 cases which have occurred since May, 1912, 20 were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Aughton, of which number 2 were fatal, and 22 were treated at home, 4 of these being fatal; the death in one of the latter being returned as due to "Heart Failure while ether was being administered for operation for Intestinal Obstruction," during convalescence from Diphtheria.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD.

ENTERIC FEVER.

HOUSES, 7. CASES, 7.

Two cases in Lydiate resided in one house supplied with water from a well, a sample from which on being analysed proved to be unsatisfactory. A supply from the public main was subsequently provided. Another case in Lydiate had had shell fish shortly before commencing to be ill. The case from North Meols resided in a house alongside of which was a very foul ditch. One of the Aughton cases resided in a house where the sanitary arrangements were very unsatisfactory. A water-closet and a sanitary ash-bin were substituted for a privy ashpit. The remaining 2 cases had no special features about them.

MEASLES.

HOUSES, 198. CASES, 311. DEATHS, 4.

There were 164 more cases of this disease than in the previous year. Following the outbreak which commenced in December of 1912 among the children attending St. George's School, Maghull, the disease spread during the Christmas vacation to the children attending the Church of England School, Maghull, and to those attending the Church of England School, Lydiate, and from there to Aughton among the children attending the Parochial Schools, appearing a little later in Bickerstaffe, and in the Roman Catholic School, Lydiate, and in April in Halsall, these Townships along with Downholland which was connected with the Halsall outbreak, were those which suffered most, the schools being closed for varying periods which will be found under School Closure.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

HOUSES 15. CASES, 27.

These cases were all in the Township of Altcar where the disease appeared in June and the school was closed from June 16th to July 21st. It was imported from a neighbouring Township, but was of a mild type and there were no deaths.

DIARRHŒA.

This disease was responsible for 6 deaths in 5 Townships.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were 8 cases of this disease with 1 death, none of them calling for any special comment.

There were no cases of either Puerperal Fever or of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Thirty-nine cases of this disease were notified, 32 by Private Practitioners, 5 by Medical Officers of Institutions, and 2 by Medical Inspector of Schools. In 32 cases the disease was situated in the lungs and in the remaining 7 in some other part of the system. In eight instances the dwellings in which the patients lived were either damp, or ill ventilated, or both. Thirteen of the cases terminated fatally, and there were 6 deaths of cases previously notified. Two children probably contracted the disease from earlier cases in the household, and in each case it was fatal. All the houses where fatal cases occurred were disinfected, as were also other houses where it appeared that benefit would accrue.

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 the infection and frequently much valuable information is gained, and 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 in 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 Inspector 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 DISEASE.

"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 Bedding Van. Along with the house there are four acres of land.

A new Pavilion was opened in July, 1902, for the reception of cases of Scarlet Fever.

Two new small wards were added at the beginning of 1911 giving accommodation for six more patients. At the same time some much-needed accommodation for the resident staff was provided.

The Urban District of Croston, the Urban District of Skelmersdale, and the Ormskirk Guardians (for the Workhouse and Schools) have agreements with the Council by which they can send patients to the hospital.

The following is a summary of the work done at the Hospital during the year :—

On January 1st there were 12 cases of Scarlet Fever, 4 of Diphtheria, and 1 of Enteric Fever in the Hospital, and during the year there were admitted 92 cases of Scarlet Fever, 33 cases of Diphtheria, and 9 cases of Enteric Fever, making 134 admissions in all, the highest number admitted in any one year since the hospital was opened. The admissions were from the following Townships :—Scarlet Fever: Aughton 58, Bickerstaffe 2, Hesketh 1, Lydiate 6, Rufford 4, Scarisbrick 18, Tarleton 2, Croston 1. Diphtheria: Altcar 1, Aughton 5, Downholland 2, Halsall 1, Hesketh 23, Maghull 1. Enteric Fever: Aughton 2, Hesketh 1, Lydiate 3, North Meols 1, Skelmersdale 2.

One hundred cases of Scarlet Fever, 35 cases of Diphtheria, and 9 of Enteric Fever were discharged cured.

There were 4 deaths, 2 being due to Diphtheria, 1 to Scarlet Fever and 1 to Measles following Scarlet Fever.

Eighty-eight per cent of the cases of Scarlet Fever in the District were treated in hospital; 58 per cent of the cases of Diphtheria, and all the cases of Enteric Fever.

The average length of residence in hospital of those suffering from Scarlet Fever was 7 weeks and 2 days, of those suffering from Diphtheria 4 weeks and 1 day, and those suffering from Enteric Fever 7 weeks and 6 days.

One patient admitted suffering from Scarlet Fever had previously been exposed to the infection of Measles and 10 days after admission he developed that disease which proved fatal. Following this case ten other children contracted Measles, and as some of them were convalescent from Scarlet Fever, they had to be detained in hospital longer than would otherwise have been the case, and so helped to raise the average length of residence of the cases of Scarlet Fever in hospital.

The average number of cases in hospital per week was 18, the highest at any one time being 31, and the lowest 7.

The outside work has been as follows :—There have been 119 journeys with the Ambulance, 203 with the Bedding Van, 803 rooms in 184 houses have been disinfected, 6552 articles of bedding, clothing &c., have been disinfected. Eighty four journeys have been made on the bicycle with the portable sprays for the purpose of disinfecting houses.

Included in the above are 1 journey with the Ambulance and 2 with the Bedding Van to Croston ; 5 rooms in 1 house, and 22 articles were disinfected ; the disinfectant being used once. The Bedding Van made 18 journeys to Skelmersdale, 161 articles being disinfected and the disinfectant was used 9 times.

In addition to the foregoing the Parochial Schools, Aughton, were disinfected 13 times, Christ Church Schools, Aughton, twice, the Parish Church once ; Hesketh Bank Schools 4 times and the Methodist Sunday School once ; Bickerstaffe Schools once ; Halsall Schools once ; the Roman Catholic School, Lydiate twice ; St. Mary's School, Scarisbrick, twice, and the Township School, once.

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
1904	61	4	1	0	66	2
1905	72	1	6	0	79	2
1906	34	12	3	0	49	3
1907	79	1	10	0	90	4
1908	63	3	1	0	67	3
1909	77	1	5	0	83	1
1910	67	1	21	0	89	1
1911	40	32	24	0	96	3
1912	93	5	8	0	106	4
1913	92	9	33	0	134	4
Total ..	981	97	118	14	1210	36

Percentage of admission 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 ..
1904	53.9 ..
1905	84.3 ..
1906	87.1 ..
1907	92.9 ..
1908	84.9 ..
1909	92.6 ..
1910	87.5 ..
1911	65.0 ..
1912	77.9 ..
1913	88.2 ..

OUTSIDE WORK IN CONNECTION WITH THE HOSPITAL

	JOURNEYS.		DISINFECTION.			
	Ambulance.	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
1904	52	154	512	126	116	7,510
1905	61	148	578	133	122	9,339
1906	45	80	312	85	75	4,495
1907	65	122	538	101	136	6,224
1908	54	118	435	102	119	5,702
1909	65	121	403	107	103	4,971
1910	80	141	544	149	130	6,008
1911	63	106	392	139	107	4,270
1912	73	156	450	146	128	5,613
1913	119	203	803	184	201	6,552
Totals...	953	2,483	5,962	2,139	3,316	93,031

The house and grounds have as usual been kept in good order, Miss Pick having been as active as ever in her endeavours to have everything satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGY.

Three hundred and twenty-nine swabs from throat and nose were sent for examination, 41 of these being reported as having the Klebs Loeffler Bacillus present. Two specimens of dust from a school were reported on as having no Klebs Loeffler Bacilli present. Two specimens of blood serum were also sent, one of them having distinct Typhoid reaction and the other not.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

The Council has again had the adoption of this Act under consideration, but as, if adopted, it would be necessary to increase the staff by the appointment of a Lady Health Visitor, it was decided to postpone the question to some future date.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

I considered it necessary to advise that the following schools should be closed on account of the prevalence of the illnesses mentioned :—

Church of England School, Maghull, from January 6th to February 3rd on account of Measles.

Church of England School, Lydiate, from January 13th to February 3rd on account of Measles.

Hesketh Bank School from January 18th to February 3rd and from February 17th to March 10th on account of Diphtheria.

Parochial Schools, Aughton, the Infant Department from February 11th and the whole School from February 13th until March 25th, on account of Measles.

Bickerstaffe School from February 27th to March 25th, on account of Measles.

Roman Catholic School, Lydiate, from February 28th to March 25th, on account of Measles.

Church of England School, Halsall, from April 21st to May 19th, on account of Measles.

Altcar School from June 16th to July 21st, on account of Whooping Cough.

EXCLUSION OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL.

When cases of infectious disease appear in a school, attempts are made in the first instance to prevent the disease spreading, by not only excluding the patient, but also all other members of the family, and any other children who have been directly exposed to infection ; in this way the outbreak is frequently limited to a few cases, and it is unnecessary to close the school. Exception to the foregoing rule is sometimes made in the case of Measles and Whooping Cough, where those who have been exposed to infection have already had the disease.

SCHOOLS.

There are 23 Elementary Schools in the District. All are supplied with water from public service. The sanitary conveniences are on the whole in fair order, though repairs were needed in some instances, and in a few reconstruction advisable.

The arrangements for the Medical Inspection of School Children are made by the County Council, which body administers the Education Act.

A perusal of the foregoing part of the report will show the action taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

Although containing an area of 61,600 acres, the physical features of the District do not vary very much. The Township of North Meols which lies to the West is 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.

The population very largely consists of farmers and people connected with the farming industry. Aughton, Maghull, Scarisbrick, and Tarleton have, in addition, a considerable number of residents who are engaged in business in Liverpool, Southport, Preston, and other towns.

WATER SUPPLY.

The district is, on the whole, well supplied with water of excellent quality. The Southport, Birkdale, and West Lancashire Water Board have two wells in Aughton, another is being sunk in Bickerstaffe, and a fourth has been secured from the Urban District Council of Skelmersdale; and from this Board's mains nine Townships are more or less supplied. Two receive their supply partially from the Ormskirk Urban District Council, two from the Preston Rural District Council, two from the St Helens Corporation, and one from the Lathom and Burscough Urban District Council. A reference to the Table following will show the number of houses supplied from each source.

At the end of the year there were 3900 houses supplied with water from the public mains, being an increase of 134 over the previous year, and 85·8 per cent of the total number of inhabited houses in the district. The increase is very largely accounted for by an increase of 93 in the Township of Bickerstaffe, the new mains laid by the Southport, Birkdale and West Lancashire Joint Water Board being brought into use.

The Southport Water Board laid 408 yards of new main in Prescott Road, Aughton, and a short length to supply a farm in Bickerstaffe. One hundred yards of 2 inch main was laid in Tarleton to supply a new house, and 60 yards in Rufford to supply some farm buildings.

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 1913.

1913.	Wigan Rural District Council.	Lathom and Burscough Main.	Liverpool Corporation.	Ormskirk Urban District Council.	Preston Rural District Council.	St. Helens Corporation.	Southport Joint Water Board.	TOTALS.	Increase during the year.	Percentage of Inhabited Houses thus supplied.
ALTCAR	57	57	2	61·2
AUGHTON	62	...	...	714	776	2	95·3
BICKERSTAFFE	55	...	4	216	275	93	69·7
BISPHAM	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3·3
DOWNHOLLAND	130	130	...	84·5
HALSALL.....	257	257	4	81·5
HESKETH	263	...	1	264	5	98·5
LYDIATE.....	147	147	1	67·4
MAGHULL	4	286	290	4	97·6
MELLING	1	...	...	205	...	206	...	97·1
NORTH MEOLS	387	387	4	92·1
RUFFORD	182	...	...	...	...	...	182	5	97·3
SCARISBRICK	420	420	9	85·5
SIMONSWOOD	49	...	49	4	77·7
TARLETON	458	...	...	458	1	95·8
TOTALS FOR DISTRICT	2	182	1	117	721	262	2615	3900	134	85·8

WATER ANALYSIS.

I analysed 15 samples of well water during the year ; 1 from Altcar was fair and 1 was satisfactory. Two from Bickerstaffe were fair, and 2 were unsatisfactory. One from Downholland was fair, and 1 was satisfactory. One from Lydiate was unsatisfactory. One from Melling was satisfactory. Five from Scarisbrick were unsatisfactory. Owing to complaints from the inhabitants near the Church, Bickerstaffe, as to the condition of the water supplied from the mains of the Southport Water Board, I took 4 samples of water from different houses and 1 from the new well. Those from the houses contained a large amount of iron which came from the interior of the pipes, and indicated that a considerable amount of flushing was necessary to clear this away, the water as pumped from the well being practically free from iron.

I also analysed 4 samples of the effluent from the Aughton Sewage Farm which were satisfactory.

SEWERING AND DRAINING.

AUGHTON.—In this Township about three-fourths of the houses are connected with the system of sewers. The sewage from the southern watershed is carried to outfall works at the southwest of the Township, where it is treated with Alumino-Ferric, and allowed to settle in four open tanks, from which it flows on to land for treatment by downward filtration. Good results are still got from that portion of the land which is covered with clinkers and cinders. The sewage from the northern watershed is, by agreement with the Ormskirk Urban District Council, received into the sewers of that place, and is carried to outfall works in Scarisbrick.

BICKERSTAFFE.—A small portion of this Township which lies close to Ormskirk, is by agreement connected with the sewer of the Urban District Council.

SCARISBRICK.—No further progress has been made in connection with the houses in Grimshaw Lane.

CESSPOOL SYSTEM.

In the great 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 land is sufficient for the purpose, with ordinary care, a cesspool does not become a nuisance; but if the amount of land is insufficient, or the people are careless a nuisance quickly arises. There has been this difficulty in past years in Banks and many nuisances have been caused, some of which have been very difficult to remedy, but I am now pleased to report that arrangements have been made to empty all cesspools that are liable to become a nuisance, by contract, the Council providing a specially constructed cart for the purpose.

HOUSE DRAINS.

Throughout the District generally these are fairly satisfactory. Inspections are continually being made, and defects, as found, are remedied; the report of the Inspector, which follows, showing the work done in that department.

DISPOSAL OF EXCREMENT.

In Aughton where there is a system of sewerage, excrement is largely disposed of by water carriage, also many of the larger houses in other parts of the District have water carriage from the house, but with the exception of a few houses in Tarleton, which are in close proximity to a tidal river, the connection is with a cesspool. The majority of the rest are provided with privy ashpits, built on a plan which some years ago was approved by the Local Government Board's Inspectors and is as satisfactory as anything of the kind can be. Old fashioned deep privy middens are still found in the course of inspection, but are growing less in number year by year.

During the year 11 new water closets have been built, and 44 privy ashpits have been converted into water closets ; 14 new pail closets have been erected and 20 privy ashpits have been converted into pail closets ; 10 new privy ashpits have been built and 32 old fashioned privy middens have been converted into privy ashpits. There are now approximately in the District 594 water closets, 29 waste water closets, 300 pail closets, and 3392 privy ashpits.

SCAVENGING.

AUGHTON.—New arrangements were made during the year in this Township which will undoubtedly be for the good of the district, a more satisfactory contract for the work being entered into.

NORTH MEOLS.—The removal of refuse by contract from the more congested areas in this Township is now an established fact, the result being beneficial to these parts.

A reference to the Inspectors' report will show the work done during the year.

In the other parts of the District householders usually make arrangements with neighbouring farmers to take the ashpit contents.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was necessary to take Legal Proceedings in one case in order to prevent the discharge of sewage on to a road through a wall. The summons was, however, withdrawn on the defendant paying costs, the nuisance having been abated while the case was pending.

LODGING HOUSES.

These premises have been found satisfactory when visited.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Mrs. Sockett's premises in Banks Road, North Meols, were frequently visited by Inspector Hartly until his term of office expired, and afterwards by Inspector Ainsworth. Twenty-three carcasses of cattle and 4 of pigs, were examined and of these 6 carcasses of cows and a part of another, 2 carcasses of pigs and part of another, were burnt in the Southport Refuse Destructor. Fourteen carcasses of cattle were removed to Zoo Park and used for animal food. Three carcasses of cows and one and a half of pigs were allowed to pass for human food. Three carcasses of cows were seen at Mrs. Birchall's premises in Cottage Lane, Aughton, 2 were passed for human food and 1 for food for animals. The carcass of a pig was examined at R. Iddon's farm, Tarleton, and was buried. Six of the carcasses were tuberculous.

SALE OF FOODS AND DRUGS ACT.

This Act is administered by the County Police, and I am indebted to Superintendent Hodgson of Ormskirk, and to Superintendent Whittaker of Chorley, for the following information :—In that part of the District which is in the West Derby Hundred, 6 samples were taken in Bickerstaffe, 3 in Halsall, 6 in Maghull, 7 in North Meols, 7 in Scarisbrick, 10 in Aughton, 3 in Downholland, 3 in Lydiate, 3 in Melling. Proceedings were taken in 2 instances, a Maghull milk seller being fined 2/6 and costs for depriving first milk of 10% of cream, and a sample of damson jam in Halsall contained 3½ grains of Benzoic Acid per pound, the vendor being fined 10/- including costs. In that part in the Leyland Hundred a sample of Whiskey from Rufford was returned as genuine.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders are in force throughout the District. There were 54 registered Dairies and Cowsheds in 1913. Nine new ones have been registered, 1 has been transferred, and 5 have ceased to sell milk. Twenty-one required lime-washing when visited.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

There are 130 Workshops in the District. This number does not correspond with that of the previous year as the late Inspector, Mr. Peach, in his figures counted each room used for work as a separate workshop, whereas in this year's report that is not done. During the year there were six new places registered, two were transferred, and three were done away with. Seven places when visited required limewashing, and two extra ventilation. The Home Office Table will be found appended.

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT 1890,
AND HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING
ACT, 1909.

One hundred and twenty-seven houses were visited by the Medical Officer of Health under the above Acts, and of these he reported to the Council that 87 should be examined in detail. Including 3 which were left over from the preceeding year, 90 were inspected and 369 visits were paid by the Inspectors. As a result of these detailed inspections 5 notices to execute work were issued under Section 15 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, and 54 under the Public Health Act, 1875, and work was done and was progressing at the end of the year in 76 cases. No houses were come across which were so dangerous to health as to require a recommendation that a Closing Order should be made. Various defects in 17 houses were remedied without the service of notice. One house was closed by the owner rather than have the repairs done which were pointed out to him as being necessary. The chief defects were damp walls and faulty sanitary accommodation. Fewer houses were dealt with in 1913, than in previous years, since the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, came into operation, the reason being that for some time previous to the death of the late Inspector, Mr. Peach, he had been in failing health, and unable to do the amount of work that would have been required from him had the Medical Officer of Health.

referred more houses for detailed inspection. It is hoped in 1914 to overtake the lost ground, and in addition to deal with more houses than has been the case in any one year before.

In connection with the Housing of the Working Classes in the District, one of the difficulties met with, when houses out of repair are come across, is that frequently it does not pay the owner to lay out the money required, owing to the smallness of the rent, and we are often informed that if we persist in asking for the suggested repairs the houses will be closed, I am pleased to state that although this threat has been made in several instances, in only one has it been carried out, an interview in the other cases having succeeded in getting the work done. A reference to the figures supplied to me by the Chief Surveyor will show that 28 cottages for workmen have been built during the year, and I should like to draw attention to the fact that the Earl of Setton is, on that part of his estate which lies within the District, building some substantial, roomy cottages, has converted a farm house into 2 cottages, and renovated another. I understand also that more will be put up as required.

The Table which follows sets out work done during the year under the different headings, and in each Township.

TABLE SHOWING WORK DONE UNDER THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

1913.	Altcar	Aughton	Bickerstaffe	Bispham	Downholland	Halsall	H'sk'th-with Beconsall	Lydiate	Maghull	Melling	North Meols	Rufford	Scarisbrick	Simonswood	Tarleton	TOTALS
Houses visited by Medical Officer of Health.....	2	93	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	9	..	..	127
Houses referred by M.O.H. to Local Authority	2	60	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	14	6	..	..	87
Houses inspected by Sanitary Inspector	2	63	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	14	6	..	..	90
Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector	4	287	..	..	12	..	2	..	..	..	..	50	14	..	..	369
Houses represented as unfit for human habitation .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Closing Orders made by Local Authority .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Defects remedied without Closing Orders .....	..	40	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1	..	..	50
Defects in course of being remedied without Closing Orders	1	10	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	8	5	..	..	26
Defects remedied after Closing Orders	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Closing Orders determined .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Orders to execute work under Section 15 .....	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Orders to execute work under Public Health Act, 1875 .....	..	33	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	11	5	..	..	54
Remedied without service of notice .	1	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	17
Houses closed by Owner in lieu of remedying defects	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

BUILDING OPERATIONS.

Byelaws in connection with this department are in force throughout the District, and all plans must be sent to Mr. Robert Rosbotham, the Chief Surveyor, who reports on them to the various meetings, and examines the buildings from time to time during the course of erection.

I am indebted to Mr. Rosbotham for the following list of plans which were approved of during the year in the various Townships :—

ALTCAR.

New Cottages	2
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

AUGHTON.

New Houses	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	2
Additions and Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	18
Drains	..	..	..	..	..	9
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	32
						—

BICKERSTAFFE.

New Houses	4
------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

DOWNHOLLAND.

Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	3
Additions and Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	1
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	6
						—

HALSALL.

Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	4
Other New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	1
Additions and Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	1
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	6
						—

HESKETH.

New houses	..	..	..	..	..	11
Other New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	1
Additions and Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	4
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	16
						—

MAGHULL.

New Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	1
Drains	..	..	..	..	..	1
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	2
						—

MELLING.

Additions and Outbuildings	1
----------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

NORTH MEOLS.

New Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	2
Other New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	1
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	3
						—

RUFFORD.

New House..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	1
Additions and Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	3
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	5
						—

SCARISBRICK.

New Cottages	8
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

SIMONSWOOD.

New Cottages	4
--------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

TARLETON.

New Houses	..	..	..	..	..	3
New Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	5
Other New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	3
Additions and Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	5
						—
Total	..	..	..	..	..	16
						—

TOTAL FOR THE WHOLE DISTRICT.

New Houses	..	..	..	..	..	22
New Cottages	..	..	..	..	..	28
Other New Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	12
Additions and Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	33
Drains	..	..	..	..	..	10
						—
						105
						—

Appended are :—

Tables I., II., III., IV. of the Local Government Board.

Home Office Table relating to Workshops.

Table C of the County Council.

Annual Reports of the Inspectors of Nuisances.

Table showing Sanitary Work in the District.

Annual Report on Canal Boats.

Copy of Rules and Regulations to be observed in the
Management of Infectious Cases.

Copy of Special Notice respecting Scarlet Fever.

Copy of Special Notice respecting Diarrhœa.

Copy of "Information for Consumptive People and
those who live with them."

Copy of Notice respecting Fish Refuse.

A Map showing the Water Mains laid on in the District.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

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

Medical Officer of Health.

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and Previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS			NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT		
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of age.		At all ages.		
			Number.	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.		Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1906	20109	495	495	25·00	279	13·87	17	21	46	93	283	14·29	
1907	20318	426	428	21·39	251	12·35	9	21	36	84	263	13·14	
1908	20208	498	500	25·12	290	14·35	15	15	49	98	290	14·57	
1909	20156	436	437	22·12	251	12·45	10	27	44	100	268	13·57	
1910	20486	464	464	23·11	219	10·69	9	21	36	77	231	11·50	
1911	20684	419	421	20·76	263	12·71	13	24	44	104	274	13·51	
1912	20744	441	442	21·73	215	10·57	21	20	30	67	214	10·52	
1913	20782	411	411	20·12	236	11·36	7	35	39	94	262	12·56	

* In Column 6 are included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district, For continuation of notes see opposite page.

NOTES TO TABLE I.—*Continued.*

This Table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrected rates probably will not be available. The rates should be calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population. In a district in which large Public Institutions for the sick or infirm seriously affect the statistics, the rates in Columns 5 and 13 may be calculated on a nett population, obtained by deducting from the estimated gross Population the average number of inmates not belonging to the district in such institutions.

In Column 12 is to be entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 8 and by addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are to be similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included in the number given in Column 8, and by addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

† The Medical Officer of Health will be able from the returns made to him by the local Registrar of Deaths to fill in Column 8 in accordance with the rule in the next paragraph below. The Registrar-General, either directly or through the County Medical Officer of Health, will supply the Medical Officer of Health with the particulars of deaths to be entered in Column 9; and all such deaths must be included in this Column, unless an error is detected, and its correction has been accepted by the Registrar-General. For Column 4 the Registrar-General will furnish to the Medical Officer of Health a statement of the number of births needing to be added to or subtracted from the total supplied by the local Registrar.

‡ "Transferable Deaths" are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a district other than that in which they resided. The deaths of persons without fixed or usual residence, *e.g.*, casuals, must not be included in Columns 8 or 9, except in certain instances under 3 (*b*) below. The Medical Officer of Health will state in Column 8 the number of transferable deaths of "non-residents" which are to be deducted, and will state in Column 9 the number of deaths of "residents" registered outside the district which are to be added in calculating the nett death-rate of his district.

The following special cases arise as to Transferable Deaths:—

(1) Persons dying in Institutions for the sick or infirm, such as hospitals, lunatic asylums, workhouses and nursing homes (but not almshouses) must be regarded as residents of the district in which they had a fixed or usual residence at the time of admission. If the person dying in an Institution had no fixed residence at the time of admission the death is not transferable. If the patient has been directly transferred from one such institution to another, the death is transferable to the district of residence at the time of admission to the first Institution.

(2) The deaths of infants born and dying within a year of birth in an Institution to which the mother was admitted for her confinement should be referred to the district of fixed or usual residence of the parent.

(3) Deaths from Violence are to be referred (*a*) to the district of residence, under the general rule; (*b*) if this district is unknown or the deceased had no fixed abode, to the district where the accident occurred, if known; (*c*) failing this, to the district where death occurred, if known; and (*d*) failing this, to the district where the body was found.

Total population at all ages at Census 1911—20,684.

Number of inhabited houses—4,412.

Average number of persons per house—4.60.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of are covered by water)—61,600.

TABLE II.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NO. OF CASES NOTIFIED.								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.											Total Cases Removed to Hospital.																					
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					1 to 5.	5 to 13.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Alcarr	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15												
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 13.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.																								45 to 65.	65 and upwards.										
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous-Croup)	55	9	39	4	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	8	...	1	1	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	102	17	69	8	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	7	1	4	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	32	2	...	8	11	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of „	7	1	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	311	4	275	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	27	...	27			
Totals	549	9	417	25	23	14	2

Isolation Hospital, Aughton, provided by the West Lancashire Rural District Council.

Table III.—Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Death in whole District at subjoined Ages.									Deaths in Public Institutions.
	All Ages.	Und'r 1.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes—										
Certified ...	150	36	5	4	13	10	32	60	90	
Uncertified ...	12	3					1	3	5	
Measles ...	4		2		2					
Scarlet Fever ...	2				2					2
Diphtheria and Croup	6		1		4	1				3
Influenza ...	3							1	2	
Erysipelas ...	1					1				
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	19	1		1		3	7	6	1	
Tuberculous Meningitis	1					1				
Other Tubercular Diseases	3	1					2			
Cancer, malignant disease ...	27						3	14	10	
Rheumatic Fever ...	1					1				
Organic Heart Disease	25					1	1	12	11	
Bronchitis ...	16	3			1		1	2	9	
Pneumonia (all forms)	14	2		1	1		5	4	1	
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	4	1					1	1	1	
Diarrhoea & Enteritis	6	6								
Appendicitis & Typhlitis	2				1		1			
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	4							2	2	
Alcoholism ...	1						1			
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	2								2	
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	2						2			
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ...	13	13								
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	8		1		2		1	3	1	
Suicide ...	4						1	2	1	
Other Defined Diseases	82	6	1	2		2	6	13	52	1
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	12	6					1	3	2	
All causes ...	262	39	5	4	13	10	33	63	95	6
Sub-Entries included in above figures:—										
Pneumonia ...	11	1		1	1		5	3		

NOTES TO TABLE III.

- (a) All "Transferable Deaths" of residents, *i.e.*, of persons resident in the District who have died outside it, are to be *included* with the other deaths in columns 2-10. Transferable deaths of non-residents, *i.e.*, of persons resident elsewhere in England and Wales who have died in the District, are in like manner to be *excluded* from these columns. For the precise meaning of the term "transferable deaths" see footnote to Table I.

The Total Deaths in column 2 of Table III. should equal the figures for the year in column 12 of Table I.

- (b) All deaths occurring in institutions for the sick and infirm situated within the district, whether of residents or of non-residents, are to be entered in the last column of Table III.
- (c) All deaths certified by registered Medical Practitioners and all Inquest cases are to be classed as "Certified"; all other deaths are to be regarded as "Uncertified."
- (d) Exclusive of "Tuberculous Meningitis" (10), but inclusive of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.
- (e) Title 19 should be used for deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis at all ages. (In the "Short List" deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years are included under Title 19; those at 2 years and over being placed under Title 28.)

Table IV.—Infant Mortality during the Year 1913.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months & under 12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes	9	5	1	1	16	1	6	9	4	35
Certified	9	5	1	1	16	1	6	9	4	35
Uncertified	1				1	1	1			4
Small-pox										
Chicken-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet Fever										
Whooping Cough										
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).										
Erysipelas										
Tuberculous Meningitis										
Abdominal Tuberculosis..								1		1
Other Tuberculous Diseases..									1	1
Meningitis (<i>Not Tuberculous</i>)										
Convulsions		1		1	2	1	1		1	5
Laryngitis								1		1
Bronchitis						1	1		1	3
Pneumonia (all forms).							1	1		2
Diarrhœa							1	2	1	4
Enteritis							1	1		2
Gastritis								1		1
Syphilis										
Rickets										
Suffocation, over-lying										
Injury at Birth										
Atelectasis	1	1			2			1		3
Congenital Malform't's							1			1
Premature Birth	4		1		5					5
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	5	1			6		1			7
Other Causes		2			2			1		3
	10	5	1	1	17	2	7	9	4	39

Births in the Year {legitimate, 407 }
{illegitimate, 4 }Deaths in the year of {legitimate infants, 38 }
{illegitimate infants, 1 }

NOTES TO TABLE IV.

- (a) The total in the last column of Table IV. should equal the total in column 10 of Table I., and in column 3 of Table III.
- (b) Under Abdominal Tuberculosis are to be included deaths from Tuberculous Peritonitis and Enteritis and from Tabes Mesenterica.
- (c) The total deaths from Congenital Malformations, Premature Birth, Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus, should equal the total in Table III. under the heading Congenital Debility, and Malformation including Premature Birth
Want of Breast Milk should be included under Atrophy and Debility.
- (d) For references to the meaning of any other headings, *see* notes attached to Table III.

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.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR, 1913, IN CONNECTION WITH
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, AND
HOMework.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND
WORKPLACES.

WORKSHOPS :—Inspections, 284 ; Written notices, nil ;
Prosecutions, nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS,
AND WORKPLACES.

WANT OF CLEANLINESS Found, 14 ; Remedied, 14.

WANT OF VENTILATION Found, 3 ; Remedied, 2.

	—	—
Total	17	16
	—	—

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Dressmakers	17
Shoemakers	21
Basketmakers	12
Bakers	7
Wheelwrights	28
Blacksmiths	29
Confectioners	2
Saddlers	3
Joiners	1
Tailors	8
Tinsmiths	1
Boatbuilders	1
—	
Total number of Workshops on Register	130
—	

Table C. COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1913.

RURAL DISTRICT OF WEST LANCASHIRE.

Medical Officer of Health :

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

Salary, £500.

Inspectors of Nuisances :

T. G. H. HUNTER, Salary, £120.

J. AINSWORTH, Salary, £90.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation?—
For Small-pox, see Report page 11. For other Infectious Disease, see Report page 20.

It is Joint or otherwise?—No, but Croston, Skelmersdale and the Ormskirk Guardians can send patients by agreement.

No. of Beds available *for your District*?—For Small-pox 8.
For other Infectious Diseases 26.

No. of Cases removed to Hospital *from your District*?—
Enteric Fever, 7 ; Diphtheria, 33 ; Scarlet Fever, 91 ;
Total, 131.

Deaths in Hospital of patients *from your District*?—From
what causes?—2 Diphtheria, 1 Scarlet Fever, 1 Measles
following Scarlet Fever.

How is Disinfection carried out?—Houses, Formalin Spray.
No. of Houses disinfected? 184.

Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c., (steam or otherwise) :—Thresh Steam Disinfector.

- Where is apparatus situated?—Isolation Hospital, Aughton.
- Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Infectious Diseases Notification Act notifiable (for instance, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, Chicken Pox, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, &c)? If so, what are they?—Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
- Diseases specially prevalent?—Measles, Scarlet Fever.
- Period?—January to November.
- Any Schools Closed?—Yes. If so, for what disease?—See Report page 25.
- No. of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910?—One.
- Bacteriological Examinations. Number and nature of specimens examined?—329 for Diphtheria; 2 for Enteric Fever; 2 of Dust.
- Arrangement (if any) made under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910?—Yes.

“THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACTS,
1890 to 1909.”

- Has your Authority determined the procedure to be adopted for the inspection of your District as required by Article I. of the Regulations?—Yes.
- Has your Authority prepared, as required by Article I. (3), a list of dwelling-houses, the early inspection of which is desirable?—Yes.
- Has your Authority designated an officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Article 2. If so, what officer?—Inspectors of Nuisances. |
- Have the necessary books, forms, &c., for keeping the required records been obtained?—Yes

Action taken in 1913 :—See Report page 33.

No. of Dwelling-houses inspected under Sec. 17 of the Act of 1909 ?—90.

„ Dwelling-houses considered unfit for human habitation ?—0.

„ Representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders ?—0.

„ Closing Orders made ?—0.

„ Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders ?—50.

„ Dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habitation after making Closing Orders ?—0.

„ Dwelling-houses demolished ?—0.

General character of defects found to exist ?—Damp walls &c., faulty sanitary accommodation.

Is there a deficiency of housing accommodation ? If so, where ?—Not at present.

Source of the Water Supply ?—See Report page 27.

What is its condition ?—Good.

Possibilities of contamination ?—Very slight.

Is it subject to your inspection ?—Yes, by courtesy.

Is Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactorily ?—See Report page 30.

How performed (by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses) ?—See Report page 31.

How is the Refuse disposed of ?—Taken by farmers.

Has a Destructor been provided ?—No.

Sewage Disposal Works. Method of Treatment ?—See Report page 29.

What is the character of the Drainage System ?—See Report page 29.

Drain Testing, Flushing, &c. ?—Sewers flushed in Aughton, drains tested as required.

Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams ?—None.

Canal Boats : Number Inspected ?—71. Number of Infringements of Acts ?—16.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses ?—Satisfactory.

Slaughter Houses ?—Satisfactory. Has a Public Abattoir been provided ?—No.

Lodging Houses ?—Satisfactory. Are they Registered ?
Yes.

What is the Sanitary condition of the Schools ?—Satisfactory on the whole.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—

Are they periodically inspected ?—Yes.

What is their condition ?—Satisfactory on the whole.

Have the Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B. ?—Yes.

Are they enforced ?—Yes.

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow ?—
None stated in regulations.

No. of Cowkeepers ?—53.

No. on Register ?—53.

No. of Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers) ? 1.

No. on Register ?—1.

Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk ?—None.

Total amount of Food seized as unfit for Human Consumption ?—24½ Carcases.

No. of Carcases and parts of Carcases condemned for Tuberculosis ?—6.

No. of Legal Proceedings, and results ?—None.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances :—

No. of Notices served ?—136.

Nuisances remedied ?—244.

No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result ?—One, successful.

Closet accommodation of the District :—

No. of Privy Middens ?—3,392.

Pail Closets ?—300.

Fresh Water Closets ?—594.

Waste Water Closets ?—29.

No. of Privy Middens converted during 1913 ?—To
W.C.'s.—44 To Pails, &c.—20.

No. of Pail Closets converted to W.C.'s ?—None.

Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion of
either privies or pail closets, or both? If so, how
much ?—No.

Smoke :—

No. of Observations ?—Nil.

No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result ?—Nil.

What is the time allowed for the emission of black smoke
per hour ?—Nil.

Has the Authority adopted :—

“ The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 ” ?—Yes.

“ The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 ” ?—
Yes.

“ The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 ” ?—Yes

“ The Notification of Births Act, 1907 ” ?—No.

Has a Health Visitor been appointed ?—No.

Notable Sanitary improvements during 1913.—Improved
water supply for Bickerstaffe.

Chief Sanitary requirements of District.—None out of the
ordinary.

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 26th, 1914.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES
OF THE
WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

DEAR SIR,—

We have great pleasure in submitting our first Annual Report for the whole District as to the number of Matters dealt with, under the various Acts, relating to Public Health, during the year, 1913.

ALTCAR.

Workshops, registered number	1
Number of visits made	2
Limewashing of Workshops	1
Extra Ventilation required	1
Samples of Water obtained for analysis ..	2
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	3
Schools visited	1

AUGHTON.

Number of Nuisances dealt with	84
Number of Notices served	41
Number of Notices complied with	27
Nuisances abated without service of notice ..	4
Inspections made	146
Drains tested	7
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	5
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	13
Complaints as to limewashing required ..	5
New Registrations	1
Transfer of registrations	1

Registered Slaughterhouses, kept clean and satisfactory	3
Workshops, registered number	22
Workshops, required limewashing	3
Number of Visits to the above named workshops	53
New Registrations	3
Transfers of registrations.. .. .	1
Privies converted to water closets	44
Scavenging—contents of refuse removed ..	1480
Schools inspected	2

BICKERSTAFFE.

Nuisances from various causes	12
Notices served	4
Notices complied with	3
Number of inspections made	15
Houses supplied with water under the Public Health Act, 1875	46
Samples of Water obtained for analysis	4
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	3
Premises required limewashing	1
Workshops, registered number	10
New registrations	1
Visits to the said workshops	24
Limewashing required	1
Privies converted to pails	4
Schools visited	1

BISPHAM.

Nuisances from various causes	1
Workshops, registered number	7
Limewashing required	1
Visits made to the above workshops	14
Schools Visited	1
New Registrations (Factory and Workshops) ..	1

DOWNHOLLAND.

Nuisances from various causes	1
Workshops, registered number	3
Visits to the said workshops	8
Limewashing required	1
Schools visited	1
Samples of water obtained for analysis ..	2

HALSALL.

Nuisances from various causes	2
Notices served	1
Water certificates under Public Health (water) Act, 1878	1
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	5
Complaint as to limewashing required	3
New Registration	1
Workshops, registered number	7
Required Limewashing	1
Transfer of Registration	1
Visits to the above workshops	14
Schools visited	1

HESKETH-WITH-BECCONSALL.

Nuisances from various sources	93
Notices served	28
Notices complied with	19
Nuisances abated without service of notice ..	2
Inspections made	75
Water certificates under Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	5
Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops	2
Limewashing required	1
Workshops, registered number	9
Limewashing required	1
New Registration	1

LYDIATE.

Nuisances from various causes	18
Notices served	4
Notices complied with	3
Inspections made	18
Samples of water obtained for analysis ..	1
Houses supplied with water under the Public Health Act, 1875	2
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	2
Limewashing required	1
Workshops, registered number	8
Limewashing required	1
New Registrations	1
Visits to the said workshops	22
Schools inspected	2

MAGHULL.

Nuisances from various causes	16
Number of notices served	8
Number of notices complied with	7
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, satisfactorily clean	3
Workshops, registered number	9
Ventilation required in workshops	1
Visits to the said workshops	23
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	2
Number of prosecutions	1
Number of Inspections made	32
Schools inspected	2

MELLING.

Nuisances from various causes	29
Number of notices served	13
Number of notices complied with	12
Number of Inspections made	49

NORTH MEOLS.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	..	..	2
Workshops, registered number	..	..	4
New Registrations	..	..	1
Visits to the Workshops	..	..	8
Schools Inspected	..	..	2
Samples of Water for Analysis	..	..	1
Nuisances from various sources	..	..	12
Notices served	..	..	6
Notices complied with	..	..	6
Nuisances abated without service of notice	..	..	2
Inspections made	..	..	13
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	..	..	1
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	..	..	9
Complaints as to Limewashing	..	..	3
New Registrations	..	..	4
Workshops, registered number	..	..	9
New Registrations	..	..	2
Visits to the above workshops	..	..	16
Number of conversions to pails	..	..	6
Schools visited	..	..	2
Scavenging, contents of refuse removed	..	..	2184
Carcases inspected	..	..	13

RUFFORD.

Nuisances from various sources	..	..	4
Notices served	..	..	3
Notices complied with	..	..	3
Nuisances abated without service of notice	..	..	1
Inspections made	..	..	6
Drains tested	..	..	2
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	..	..	2
Complaints as to limewashing	..	..	2
Workshops, registered number	..	..	13
Required Limewashing	..	..	2

Want of Ventilation	1
New Registration	1
Transfer of Registration	1
Visits to the above workshops	26
Privies converted to pails	4
Schools visited	2

SCARISBRICK.

Nuisances from various causes	13
Notices served	7
Notices complied with	7
Nuisances abated without service of notice	3
Inspections made	13
Samples of water obtained for analysis	3
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	6
Complaints as to limewashing required	3
New Registrations	2
Workshops, registered number	11
Required Limewashing	1
Visits to the above Workshops	22
Schools Visited	3

SIMONSWOOD.

Work hops, registered number	2
Visits to the said workshops	2
Certificates granted under the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878	2

TARLETON.

Nuisances from various causes	11
Notices served	6
Notices complied with	4
Nuisances abated without service of notice	4
Inspections made	18
Drains tested	1

Want of water under the Public Health Act, 1875	1
Certificates granted under Public Health (Water)	
Act, 1878	8
Registered Common Lodging Houses, kept re-	
markably clean	3
Number of inspections made	9
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	5
Complaint of Limewashing required	2
New Registration	1
Workshops, registered number	15
Required Limewashing	1
New Registrations	4
Visits to the above workshops	30
Privies converted to pails	3
Visits to schools	2
Carcases inspected	2

We are,

Yours truly,

T. G. H. HUNTER, } Sanitary
 JAS. AINSWORTH, } Inspectors

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF MATTERS DEALT WITH BY THE INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES DURING 1913.

WHOLE DISTRICT.	Nuisances from various sources.	Inspections made to such nuisances.	Drains colour tested, and smoke tested.	Samples of Water analysed.	Water supplies under PHA, 1875, & PHWA, 1878	Registered Common Lodging-houses.	Number of Inspections.	Registered Slaughter-houses.	Number of Inspections.	Dairies, Cowsheeds, and Milkshops Order, 1885.	Number of Inspections.	Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.—Registered.	Number of Inspections.	Seavenging—Number of contents removed.	Preliminary Notices served.	Complied with.	Statutory Notices served	Complied with.	Schools inspected.	Carcases inspected.	TOTALS.
ALTCAR.....	84	160	7	2	3	..	..	3	8	13	26	1	2	1,480	36	25	5	2	1	5	..
AUGHTON.....	12	15	..	4	5	..	..	..	..	3	6	22	53	..	4	..	..	2	1	..	..
BICKERSTAFFE.....	1	2	..	..	46	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
BISPHAM.....	1	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
DOWNHOLLAND.....	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
HALSALL.....	2	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	10	7	14	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
HESKETH-WITH- } BECCONSALL..... }	93	75	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	2	6	9	18	..	8	6	20	13	1	..	..
LYDIATE.....	18	18	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	3	8	22	..	4	3	..	2	2	..	..
MAGHULL.....	16	32	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	3	6	9	23	..	5	5	3	2	2	..	..
MELLING.....	29	49	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	4	8	..	12	11	1	1	2	..	..
NORTH MEOLS } (RURAL)..... }	12	13	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	9	25	9	18	2,184	6	6	..	..	2	13	..
RUFFORD.....	4	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	6	13	26	..	3	2	..	..	2	..	..
SCARISBRICK.....	13	13	..	3	4	..	..	..	..	6	16	11	22	..	7	6	..	..	3	..	..
SIMONSWOOD.....	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TARLETON.....	11	18	1	..	9	3	9	..	..	5	15	15	30	..	6	4	..	..	2	1	..
	296	406	10	13	79	3	9	3	8	52	123	130	284	3,664	92	71	29	18	23	20	..

We beg to thank you for favours received through the year.

Yours truly,

T. G. H. HUNTER, } Sanitary Inspectors.
JAS AINSWORTH }

ANNUAL REPORT ON CANAL BOATS FOR THE
YEAR 1913.

*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 a boat when on a voyage, as the occupants at that time are unprepared for his visit, but he also inspects boats that he finds tied up.

Mr. T. G. H. Hunter, of Small-lane, Ormskirk, is the Inspector, who receives no special remuneration, the work being included with his other duties as Sanitary Inspector.

The *number* of boats inspected during the year was 71, and the condition of them and of their occupants was on the whole satisfactory.

Six of the boats were found to be not so clean as desirable and three were in need of repairs.

Ten cases were found in which there was no *certificate* on board, in three cases the owners were written to and the certificates were produced. In two other cases the certificates did not identify the owner, in one a new certificate was obtained and produced, and the other was not rectified at the end of the year. One certificate was in the hands of the Wigan Authority. One boat was new and the certificate had not been obtained. In the other cases the boats were day boats and were not used as dwellings.

One *caution notice* was served during the year.

No *Legal Proceedings* were necessary.

No cases of an infectious nature were found, nor was it necessary to detain any boat for disinfection or cleaning.

Ten children under the age of 14 years were found on board.

We are, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servants,

GEO. E. SCHOLEFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health.

T. G. H. HUNTER,

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. Hunter, Small Lane, Ormskirk ; Mr. Ainsworth, Hoole Lane, Banks ; Mr. Blundell, the Post Office, Banks ; Mr. Latham, the Post Office, Tarleton ; Mr. Cundliffe, the Post Office, Maghull ; and Mr. Mawdsley, the Post Office, Halsall.

6. The nurse 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 of an approved nature.

10. Pieces of rag 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.

15. Disinfection of a sickroom or other room of a house must be done to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health. The disinfection will be carried out by the Council's Officials, free of charge, if so desired by the occupier.

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, near 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 refusing to deliver articles to the Officers of the Council for the purposes of disinfection £10

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

7.—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

8.—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

9.—For letting any infected room or premises without disinfection to the satisfaction of a qualified medical practitioner £20

10.—For making a false statement to a prospective tenant as to there 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

11.—For hiring or using any conveyance other than a hearse for the removal of the body of a person who has died of an infectious disease without first informing the owner of the cause of death £5

12.—If the owner fails to have such conveyance disinfected after removal of such body £5

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.

On removal of a patient suffering from Scarlet Fever to the Hospital, no other child from the house should attend school until at least a fortnight has elapsed.

Should the patient be nursed at home no other child should attend school until a fortnight after the house has been disinfected.

When the patient is considered by the Medical Attendant to be free from infection, the Medical Officer of Health should be informed, when he will arrange for the necessary disinfection to be carried out.

By Order of the District Council.

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

West Lancashire Rural District Council.

INFANTILE DIARRHŒA.

Infants and young children are liable during the Summer and Autumn months to attacks of Diarrhœa, which, especially in the case of Infants, may very rapidly become of a serious nature, and a fatal result ensue.

All Parents and Guardians of Young Children are urged to take all possible precautions to prevent the occurrence of this disease.

The following are useful means to take :—

Remove all Refuse of whatever nature as far as possible from the vicinity of the house.

Burn all Household, Animal, and Vegetable Refuse.

Carefully cover all Food, especially milk, to prevent its contamination by Flies or other insects.

Use every available means to Kill Flies, which frequently are the carriers of this and other diseases.

Put Dry Earth into Privies, which should be frequently emptied.

It is advisable that medical advice should be obtained on the appearance of even a slight attack of the disease.

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

Medical Officer of Health.

West Lancashire Rural District
Council.

Information for Consumptive People and
those who live with them.

1. Consumption is a preventable disease which is caused by minute living germs, called "tubercle bacilli," which usually enter the body with the air breathed.

2. The matter which consumptive people cough or spit up, contains the germs of the disease in great numbers. If this matter is spat upon the floors, or the walls of any public or private place, or elsewhere, as soon as it becomes dry the germs of the disease which it contains are blown about and float in the air, like any other particles of dust, and are inhaled by anybody breathing that air; or they may fall upon milk or other food, and gain access to the body with that food. These are the commonest ways in which the seeds of the disease enter the body of a healthy person.

3. It is dangerous to sleep with or to live in close relationship with a consumptive, unless the patient is careful that what he coughs up is destroyed. A pocket bottle or a cup containing a little water and disinfectant should be used to spit in, so that the matter may not dry, and it should be emptied into the

fire (not into the ashpit, or upon the footwalk, or the roadway), and the cup carefully washed afterwards with boiling water. If the consumptive prefers to use soft paper, linen, or calico cloths, or handkerchiefs to spit in, they should be thrown upon the fire and burnt forthwith. He should take care that his hands, face, and clothing, do not become soiled with the matter coughed up. He should never swallow the expectoration; it is dangerous. When coughing he should always cover his mouth with the hand and turn the head aside.

4. A consumptive should sleep alone; the windows should always be wide open, except when dressing and undressing. The bed clothing and personal clothing should be boiled and washed separately from the clothing of other people.

5. Tubercle bacilli are not only the cause of ordinary consumption of the lungs, but they may also give rise to consumption of the bowels and other parts of the body, and therefore milk and other uncooked food should be carefully protected from the tubercle bacilli. If such food be kept in a place to which a consumptive patient of careless habits has access, and who may spit upon the floor, the dry particles of the matter spat up may blow about with the dust and find access to the milk or other food and in this way contaminate it. Mothers who are consumptive should not suckle their children.

6. Cows suffer from consumption, and the milk from consumptive cows is liable to contain the tubercle bacilli. Milk had better be boiled for a few seconds, unless the consumer is sure that it comes from a healthy cow, and that it has not been exposed to

danger of contamination afterwards. These precautions should be specially observed in the case of children.

7. Consumption is a disease from which large numbers of patients recover if the rooms they occupy are always kept thoroughly well-ventilated and free from dust.

8. Sunshine and fresh air destroy tubercle bacilli, and are the principal curative agents; the more sunshine and fresh air the consumptive patient gets, the more likely he is to recover.

9. Rooms that have been occupied by consumptives should be thoroughly disinfected and cleansed before they are again occupied, and the carpets and bedding should be disinfected; in fact, so far as these precautions are concerned, consumption may be regarded in precisely the same light as any other infectious disease.

10. The Council's Officials are always ready to do the necessary disinfection, both of rooms and of clothing, free of charge.

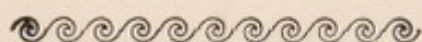
By Order of the Council,

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

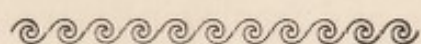
Medical Officer of Health,

Aughton, near Ormskirk.

West Lancashire Rural District
Council.



FISH REFUSE.



WHEREAS, persons are in the habit of depositing the REFUSE from FISH, arising from the preparation of such Fish for Sale, on waste pieces of land, and in ditches adjoining the Highways in some parts of the District of the Sanitary Authority, which refuse becomes a nuisance, and injurious to health,

Notice is Hereby Given

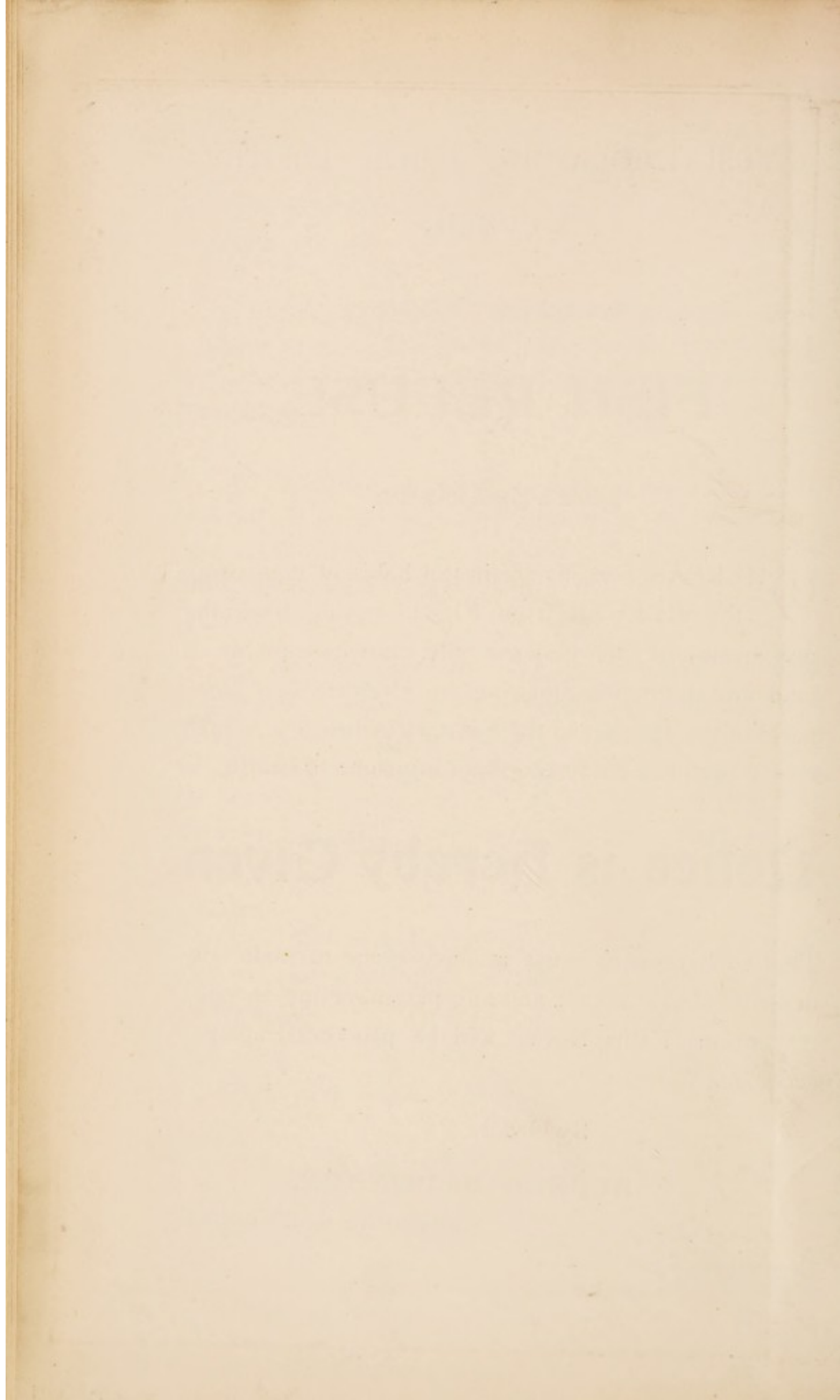
That such persons must at once cease to make the deposits above named, and any person acting in contravention of this Notice will be proceeded against according to law.

By Order,

ALFRED DICKINSON,

Clerk to the said Council



December, 1908.



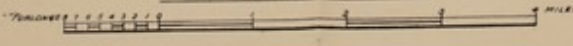
PLAN OF WATER MAINS

WITHIN THE WEST LANCASHIRE RURAL DISTRICT



Note
 WATER MAINS LAID PREVIOUS TO JANUARY 1913. 
 DITTO DO. DURING THE YEAR 1913. 
 CHURCHES SHOWN +

SCALE, 1 INCH TO 1 MILE



Geo. E. Scholefield, M.D., D.P.H.
 Medical Officer of Health
 Robert Rosbotham, M. Inst. Man. E.
 Chief Surveyor
 1914.

PLAN OF

WITHIN THE WEST

