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Contributors

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TO THE
WINCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health,
for 1907.

GENTLEMEN,

The number of deaths registered in the district during the year, together with those in the County Hospital and Workhouse belonging to the district, was 103, being 6 more than the average for the past seven years. This slight increase is more than accounted for by the large number of deaths from Cancer. There were 17 deaths from this disease, against an average of $5\frac{1}{2}$ for the past seven years. The mortality from Heart Disease was also high, there being 21 deaths as compared with an average of 11.

The total death rate was equal to 11·5 per 1000.

The Infant Mortality was again very low, being equal to 62·2 per 1000 births.

The deaths from Zymotic disease equalled 0·3 per 1000.

The following table shows the various rates compared with those for the Rural portion of England and Wales:—

	Birth Rate	Infant Mortality	Seven chief Epidemic Diseases	All Causes
Winchester Rural District ...	21·7	62	0·33	11·5
Rural England and Wales ...	25·6	106	0·91	14·7

The Infant Mortality means the number of infants dying under the age of one year out of every 1000 born.

All parts of the district have been periodically visited by me.

House Accommodation.—This has improved considerably during the year. Thirty-six new cottages have been built, twelve repaired, and two closed owing to their insanitary condition.

Sewerage and Drainage.—Twyford village remains the only part of the district having a public sewer. Owing to a letter received by the Local Government Board, I was directed by you to make a report on the sewerage of this village. A thorough inspection was made, nearly every house being visited, and I reported as follows:—

The civil parish of Twyford, according to the census of 1901, consists of an area of 4230 acres, and a population of 1479, the rateable value being £10,530.

This is made up chiefly of two villages, Twyford and Colden Common, which are situated about a mile apart.

Twyford village has grown considerably since the last census, 38 new houses having been built. I estimate the present population at 1200, and the number of houses at 250. This does not include the outlying houses which are some distance away, but only the compact portion, which extends for about a mile on the east side of the river Itchen, and is about half-a-mile wide. The whole area slopes towards the river, and is divided into two somewhat unequal parts by a road which runs from west to east from Norris' Bridge by the Reading Room and Post Office. It will be convenient to deal with these two parts separately.

The road commences at about the level of the river, and gradually ascends, until at the east end of the village it is about 16ft. higher. The central portion near the Reading Room is of exactly the same level as the sewage outfall. The land on each side slopes towards the road.

That portion of the village to the south of the road contains 179 houses, of which 134, including the National Schools, Brewery, and three public-houses, can be connected with the present sewer, although only about half of these actually make use of it.

The sewerage system has an outfall on to a meadow to the south of the village, and is treated by septic tanks and broad irrigation over $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres of ground. The system works very well, and I consider is capable of dealing with the remainder of the houses in this portion of the village, which can, owing to their position, be connected up.

The National Schools are provided with earth closets and a cesspool. Before these were taken over by the County Council, some two years ago, I advised the managers to connect with the sewer, and the matter was brought before you at the time. However, the managers decided to put in earth closets and a cesspool in accordance with the bye-laws, and this the Council could not prevent. The cesspool now has to be partially emptied every week; this is done by means of a hand-barrow (a tub on wheels), and is taken by a terrace of cottages to the allotment ground near the School. As this goes on for several hours, the smell and noise are a continual nuisance to the neighbourhood. I would strongly advise that this is discontinued, and connection made with the sewer.

I consider that this portion of the village, with the exception of the 45 houses which cannot connect with the sewer, is well provided for.

The northern portion of the village consists of 71 houses, including a large preparatory school. These cannot be connected with the sewer on account of the levels.

Therefore, there are 116 houses altogether which are unable to use the present sewerage system, and these I will now consider.

Some of the large houses have septic tanks or sub-irrigation schemes, which I believe work quite satisfactorily.

The greater proportion have cesspools, and, as a rule, there is plenty of ground, so that they are well away from the houses.

There are 56 cesspools in this portion of the village. A proper cart is provided for emptying them, and can be obtained on payment. I believe it is pretty generally used, but in some cases where there are large gardens the sewage is pumped over them. Cesspools which have been constructed since the bye-laws came into force have been made watertight, and have been passed by the Surveyor. Many of the old ones are not watertight, and I have reason to suspect that some of the new ones have had overflow pipes put in, or have otherwise become leaky. When this happens on high ground where the subsoil is dry no apparent nuisance has occurred, and the cesspools have given little trouble owing to the contents leaking away. It is commonly believed that if there is no live-well near, no harm can result, but there is always the danger of the ground air becoming polluted, as also any distant well through a fissure in the chalk. Where leaky cesspools are situated in damp soil, and the subsoil water is near the surface, they soon fill up whenever there is rain, or the springs rise. It is in these instances where nuisances from overflowing cesspools have usually occurred.

The actual number of overflowing cesspools about which complaints have been made has been limited to about half-a-dozen each year for the past five years.

Some of the cottages have earth closets and no cesspools, the slop-water being thrown over the gardens. When the latter are sufficiently large this causes no nuisance, but in some few cases there is insufficient ground for the purpose, and the slops have to be carried off the premises, or emptied down the rain-water gullies, which communicate indirectly with the river.

The following table shows the various methods of sewerage disposal:—

- 10 large houses with special systems.
- 66 houses with cesspits and good-sized gardens.
- 7 houses with cesspits and small gardens.
- 21 houses with earth closets and no cesspit, good-sized gardens.
- 7 houses with earth closets and no cesspit, small gardens.
- 5 houses probably drain into ditch in road.

An occasional nuisance is caused by a highway ditch which runs along the divisional road before mentioned. This is lined with concrete, and is only intended to take storm-water. There is no doubt that some sinks drain into it, and I believe that some of the subsoil drains receive overflow pipes from the cesspools, and thus contaminate the ditch.

The health of the village during the past has been extremely good, in very few instances could any illness be put down to sanitary defects. The mortality has also been very low, the actual figures for last year being as follows:—Death rate 6·6 per 1,000; Zymotic death rate, 0·8; infant mortality, nil; average age at death 62 years.

Water Supply.—The South Hants Water Company have their mains running through every street in the village, but there are also a good many wells.

It will be seen that although Twyford is a fairly large village, it is already provided with an efficient sewerage system which is capable of dealing with more than half of the houses. If it were possible to connect the remainder by simply extending the sewer it would be most desirable to do so, as cesspools and earth closets can never be so satisfactory as a proper sewerage system, and nuisances must arise occasionally and be a danger to health. Unfortunately Twyford lies somewhat in a valley, and the only natural fall is towards the water meadows, which lie between this village and the village of Shawford to the west. In other directions the sewage would have to be forced uphill, and this would necessitate a considerable outlay if a sewerage scheme was carried out for the whole village.

With the few exceptions mentioned, I do not consider that Twyford has any great difficulty with regard to sewage disposal, or at any rate, not more than other villages in the district.

Neighbouring villages are growing, and it may possibly be necessary later on to consider a combined scheme.

In the meantime I would suggest that:—

- 1.—The National School should be connected with the present sewer.
- 2.—No sewage should be allowed to drain into the ditch above mentioned.
- 3.—Watertight cesspools should be insisted on.
- 4.—The water in the wells in the village should be analysed, and, where necessary, a fresh supply provided.
- 5.—I would also suggest for your consideration the advisability of the Council taking over the responsibility of emptying cesspools, and providing a scavenging cart.

Since this Report was made, the sewer has been carried to the school premises and the existing cesspool done away with, and it is hoped that the Managers will see their way to convert the existing earth closets into water closets.

Suggestions 2 and 3 have been insisted on as far as it is possible to do so.

With regard to No. 5, an estimate has been prepared by the Surveyor as to the probable cost, and this has been submitted to the Parish Council for their consideration.

The average number of nuisances from overflowing cesspits in the district has occurred, and immediate steps have been taken to remedy them when coming to the notice of the Inspector or myself.

Each year a number of old privy cesspits still existing in the district are done away with and earth closets substituted.

Infectious Disease.—The number of cases notified during the year was 10, namely:—Scarlet Fever, 1; Diphtheria, 5; Erysipelas, 4.

This is the lowest number ever notified, being considerably lower than the previous record of 24 in 1906.

Scarlet Fever.—The only case notified was of a very mild type; no possible source could be discovered. The child was removed to the Diamond Jubilee Hospital, and the usual precautions taken with the result that there was no spread of the disease.

Diphtheria.—Of the 5 cases notified—2 in a family at Colden Common (which occurred in January) seemed to be the last of an outbreak which had been going on in that village during the previous nine months; 1 case occurred in Twyford, where the drainage was found to be defective; a case at Headbourne Worthy was also in a house with defective drains.

The only fatal case was a child at West Stratton, death taking place before there was time to notify the disease. In the cottage where this occurred there were no drains, but a nuisance was caused by the slop waters which were thrown outside.

In all cases the premises have at once been visited by me, and the usual precautions taken against the spread of the disease, fortunately with very satisfactory results.

Measles.—This disease was prevalent amongst the school children at East Stratton and Easton, the schools having to be closed. No fatal case occurred.

Cancer.—As stated before, the number of deaths from this disease is far in excess of the average for previous years—17 deaths occurred, as compared with an average of $5\frac{1}{2}$ for the past seven years.

This is a very sudden rise from 3 for the previous year, but would be more alarming if there had been a gradual increase for the past seven years. The cases were scattered about throughout the whole district, the ages varying from thirty-nine to seventy-five, but there were only 3 deaths under fifty. The sudden increase is probably only a coincidence, as the figures for previous years show that the mortality from Cancer in this district is rather below the average. At present, little or nothing is known as to the cause of Cancer. Investigations are continually being made, and I think that it should be made a notifiable disease, as although in a small district like this not much might be gained, yet if very full particulars were obtained by each Medical Officer of Health, when tabulated together, much useful information would be obtained.

Diamond Jubilee Hospital.—This was open for 151 days during the year. 1 case of Scarlet Fever and 4 of Diphtheria were admitted; also a case of Sore Throat, which, although at first very suspicious, afterwards proved not to be Diphtheria. All the cases made a good recovery, and in no instance was the infection carried home, although, at present, we have no proper means of disinfecting clothes.

Summary of Expenses:—

	£	s	d
Land and Buildings	28	9	2
Tradesmen's Accounts	80	16	6
Nurses and Medical Officer	87	4	6
Horse and Carriage Hire	8	18	0
Other Expenses, including Wages, etc.	85	6	9
	<u>£290</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>11</u>

Dairies and Cowsheds.—A good deal of attention has been given to these during the year. Several new ones have been built, and others are in the course of construction. Twenty-eight have been newly paved or drained, and forty-five cleaned and whitewashed by order. Proceedings were taken before the Magistrates in one instance where the Dairy utensils were not kept clean, and a conviction obtained.

Factory and Workshop Act.—All the Bakehouses in the district have been continually visited by the Inspector or myself, and whitewashing and general cleanliness enforced where necessary, also any workshop or workplace which could be discovered. Only one Outworker's name was received, and that only just before he left the district. No doubt there are others in the district, and the only means of obtaining their names would be by advertising.

Bye-laws.—The old Bye-laws relating to new Streets and Buildings have been re-modelled and are now in force.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEO. A. E. ROBERTS, D.P.H.

TWYFORD,

February 8th, 1908.

TABLE I.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1907 and previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District	
				Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages					Number	Rate*
		Number	Rate*	Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number	Rate*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1900 ...	9074	171	18.8	25	146.0	127	13.9	...	...	No Return	127	13.9
1901 ...	9049	198	22.3	10	50.5	96	10.8	...	...		96	10.9
1902 ...	9024	223	24.7	14	62.7	93	10.0	2	2		91	10.0
1903 ...	8999	220	24.4	20	90.9	100	11.1	3	3		98	10.9
1904 ...	8974	202	22.4	11	54.7	82	9.0	3	3		79	8.8
1905 ...	8949	216	24.1	17	78.7	93	10.4	...	...		93	10.4
1906 ...	8924	217	24.3	13	59.9	73	8.2	...	...	22	95	10.6
Averages for years 1900-06 }	8999	206	23.0	17	77.6	95	10.5	...	...	...	97	10.8
1907 ...	8899	193	21.7	12	62.2	86	9.7	...	...	17	103	11.5

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)—61000.

Total Population at all Ages—9049

Number of Inhabited Houses—1983

Average number of Persons per House—4.5

at Census of 1901.

I.	II.	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District	Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Victoria Isolation Hospital	County Hospital Winchester Union Workhouse	

Is the Union Workhouse within the District?—No.

TABLE II.
Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1907 and previous Years.

Names of localities	1 WHOLE DISTRICT				2 TWYFORD				3 WORTHY				4 MICHELDEVER				5 SUBURBAN			
Year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births Registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year
1900 ...	9074	171	127	25	3729	77	49	8	2866	45	37	8	2154	49	41	9	325	...	...	...
1901 ...	9049	198	96	10	3736	75	38	7	2852	63	32	1	2139	51	22	2	322	9	4	1
1902 ...	9024	223	93	14	3743	86	41	6	2838	63	25	3	2124	57	24	3	219	7	1	1
1903 ...	8999	220	100	20	3750	99	43	9	2824	48	24	4	2109	66	29	6	316	7	2	1
1904 ...	8974	202	82	11	3757	89	37	6	2810	48	15	3	2094	57	25	2	313	8	2	0
1905 ...	8949	216	93	17	3764	90	46	6	2796	56	20	2	2079	59	25	8	310	11	2	0
1906 ...	8924	217	73	13	3771	115	51	8	2782	45	26	3	2064	46	15	0	307	11	3	2
Averages of years 1900-06	8999	206	95	17	3750	90	43	7	2824	52	25	3	2109	55	27	4	316	9	2	1
1907 ...	8899	193	86	12	3778	86	42	4	2768	49	27	3	2049	55	29	5	304	3	5	0

TABLE III.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1907

Notifiable Disease	Cases notified in Whole District							Total Cases notified in each Locality				No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each Locality			
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years						1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards	Twyford	H Worthy	Michel- dever	Suburban	Twyford	H Worthy	Michel- dever	Suburban
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	5	1	2	1	1	...	...	3	1	1	...	3	1	...	...
Erysipelas	4	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Typhus fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	10	1	2	2	1	3	1	5	4	1	...	4	1	...	...

Isolation Hospital—"Diamond Jubilee," Winchester Rural District Council.

TABLE IV.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1907.

Causes of Death	Deaths at the Subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring in or beyond the District								Deaths at all Ages of Residents belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District				Total Deaths whether of Residents or non-Residents in Public Institutions in the District
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards		Twyford	Worthy	Michel-dever	Suburban	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8						
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza	4	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	1	2	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Septic Diseases	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	6	...	...	1	2	3	...	3	2	1	...	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	17	...	...	...	1	10	6	10	4	3	...	...	...
Bronchitis	6	2	...	...	...	2	2	1	1	2	2	...	...
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Veneral Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	21	...	...	1	1	7	12	7	5	8	1	...	...
Accidents	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	1	...	1	...	...
Suicides	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
All other causes	35	7	...	...	1	6	21	16	9	9	1	...	...
All causes	103	12	2	2	5	37	45	42	27	29	5	0	...

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1907.

Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths Under 1 Year
<i>All Causes :—</i>																	
Certified	3	2	1	...	6	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	12
Uncertified ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>I.—Common Infectious Diseases :—</i>																	
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>II.—Diarrhœal Diseases :—</i>																	
Diarrhœa, all forms ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis, Gastrointestinal Catarrh ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>III.—Wasting Diseases :—</i>																	
Premature Birth	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Congenital Defects ... ..	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Injury at Birth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Want of Breast-milk, Starvation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
<i>IV.—Tuberculous Diseases :—</i>																	
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Peritonitis :—																	
Tabes Mesenterica ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>V.—Other Causes :—</i>																	
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ... ..	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	3	2	1	...	6	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	12

WINCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT.—Population (estimated to middle of 1907)—8899.

Births in the year { Legitimate, 182.
 { Illegitimate, 11.

Deaths in the year of { Legitimate Infants, 12.
 { Illegitimate Infants, 0.

Deaths from all Causes at all ages, 103.

WINCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1907.

- 15 Complaints received.
- 9 Houses Disinfected.
- 12 Cottages Repaired.
- 14 Houses where the Drains have been Relaid or Repaired.
- 8 Cottages newly supplied with Water.
- 20 New Earth Closets provided to replace Old Privies.
- 45 Nuisances abated from the accumulation of Manure, etc.
- 59 Nuisances abated where the Cesspools required cleaning out.
- 2 Houses Closed owing to their Insanitary Condition. Patients removed to the Isolation Hospital.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are 49 Registered Purveyors of Milk and Cowkeepers.
 Two New Dairies Built, and nine Dairies newly Drained.
 Four new Cowsheds Built, and nineteen newly Paved and Drained.
 Forty-five Cowsheds Cleansed and Whitewashed by Order.

BAKEHOUSES.

I have made 56 Visits to the 22 Bakehouses in the district. Six Owners were specially requested to have their Bakehouses Cleansed and Whitewashed.

PETROLEUM.

Five Persons are Licensed to store Carbide of Calcium, and Three Petrol. All Petroleum Stores have been inspected, 13 samples of Petroleum collected and tested, all of which has been in accordance with the Petroleum Acts.

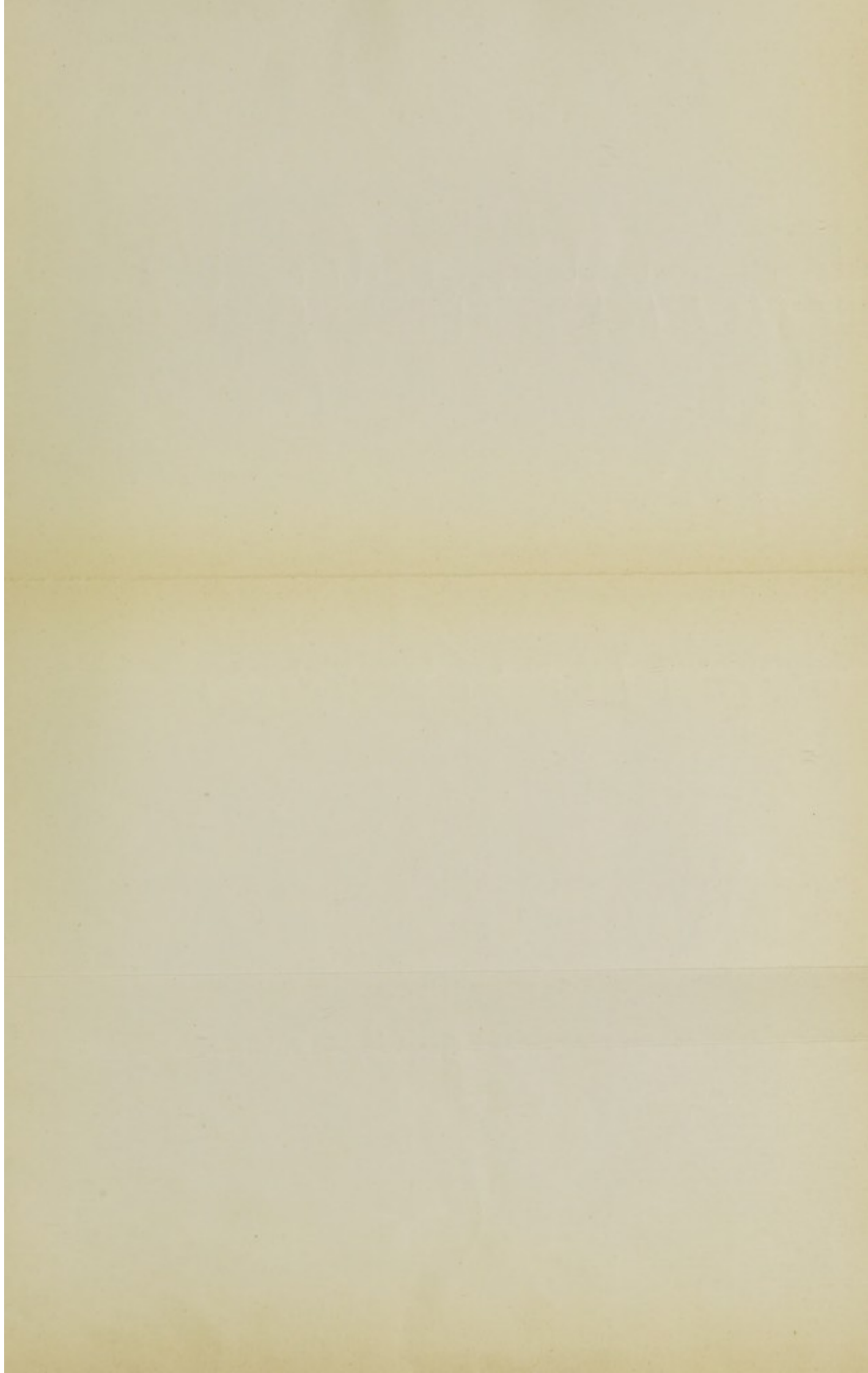
(Signed)

D. DENHAM,

Inspector.

EASTON,

January 15th, 1908.



TO THE
WINCHESTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1907.

In the
Annual Med. Assoc. Meeting

Frederick Roberts