

Report of the Commissioner of Public Health / Queensland.

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1902.

QUEENSLAND.

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

(INTERIM REPORT OF THE)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command.

TO THE UNDER SECRETARY, HOME DEPARTMENT.

Office of the Commissioner of Public Health,
Brisbane, 25th September, 1902.

SIR,—Although under the provisions of "*The Health Act of 1900*" it is not incumbent upon me to furnish an Annual Report of the transactions of my Department, I have the honour to inform you that a full statement is in course of progress, and will be furnished at an early date as possible for the information of the Hon. the Minister. Such record will contain the proceedings of my Department for the year 1901—its first year under my supervision—and will also include an abstract, and commentary thereon, of the annual reports made to me by each Local Authority throughout the State, as provided under section 16 of "*The Health Act of 1900*."

This compilation has already assumed voluminous proportions. Great delay and difficulty have been experienced in extracting the annual reports from the various local governing bodies concerned. In many cases there appears to have been little or nothing to report, as no sums have been received, no disbursements made, or works executed under the Act; in other cases, no medical officer of health or sanitary inspector has been appointed by the Local Authority to furnish the information desired.

In the majority of cases the plea of "no money" has been at least a legitimate if not an irrefutable excuse on the part of the authorities to neglect their sanitary obligations, obligations which, though freely admitted by the Local Authorities, have been evaded in the drought of local finances.

I understand the Hon. the Home Secretary wishes an abstract of the above reports of the Local Authorities, together with a brief survey of the sanitary condition of the State, for the purpose of the information of Parliament at an early date.

Interim Statement.

The time placed at my disposal is, unfortunately, very short, but I have the honour to submit the following statement of the work done through my Department for the year ending 1901 in matters concerning the public health.

1. —LEGISLATION.

There is, perhaps, no statute of Queensland with which it is more desirable that the public should be intimately acquainted, or with respect to which more general ignorance prevails, than "*The Health Act of 1900*." Selfishness and the struggle for existence, the natural instinct to look after No. 1, forced the individual, formerly solicitous only of his own individual health, to recognise in his neighbour a possible source of danger to himself. He therefore looked to a paternal Government for that protection which he imagined legislation was able to afford. As with individuals so with a community—which is merely the sum of its individual members.

The outbreak of bubonic plague, together with a natural and unanimous desire to safeguard the health of the community, led to the passing of a Health Act which consolidated and amended prior health legislation.

In enacting our new health statute I have endeavoured never to lose sight of the fact that the conditions of life and the environment of the people of Queensland are somewhat different to those which exist in the old country. When I took up my duties as Commissioner of Public Health in January of last year, I was fully seized with the importance and breadth of the powers conferred upon me by the new Act. In the mode of administration I endeavoured to aim at persuasion and advice rather than compulsion, to educate the Local Authorities up to the standard required by the provisions of an Act which contained terms, &c., defined for the first time in the laws of the State.

I am glad to state that the majority of the authorities have evinced a sincere desire to work in harmony with my Department, but I regret to add in a few cases I have had to resort to the "autocratic" sections of the Act to compel this co-operation.

2.—ADMINISTRATION.

Central Board of Health. I have received much assistance and guidance in the administration of the Act from my advisory board, the Central Board of Health, and more especially in matters pertaining to interstate health affairs.

Inspectors Department. The inspector's department has been well managed, and excellent work carried out by my two chief inspectors—Messrs. Simpson and Wilson.

Owing to the ever-increasing amount of work it was found necessary to appoint two temporary sub-inspectors to inspect and report upon the sanitary circumstances of the outlying districts of the Local Authorities of Brisbane.

The reports of the chief inspectors, as well as those of the sub-inspectors, will be found in this Report.

3.—MODEL BY-LAWS.

Model By-laws. Model forms of by-laws have been prepared for the guidance of the Local Authorities on the following subjects:—

1. Lodging-houses.
2. Houses let in lodgings. (These by-laws were specially drafted for the Bundaberg Municipal Council to meet the local difficulty of dealing with the aliens' lodgings.)
3. Refuse collection.
4. The deposit of offensive matters on streets.
5. The keeping of horses and cattle.
6. The keeping of poultry.

4.—REGULATIONS.

- Regulations.**
1. The Infectious Diseases Regulations of 1901.
 2. The cleansing of infected areas.
 3. Food and Drugs Regulations.

5.—ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

- Orders in Council.**
1. The Metropolitan Joint Board for the Prevention of Epidemic Diseases order.
 2. The Metropolitan Joint Board for the Prevention of Infectious Diseases order.

6.—SPECIAL REPORTS.

- Special Reports.**
1. The adulteration of food stuffs.
 2. Alleged poisoning of stock with cyanide.
 3. "Baby farming."
 4. Plague.
 5. The Shipping (plague) Regulations.
 6. Alleged ptomaine poisoning.
 7. Alleged case of smallpox.
 8. Insanitary conditions of the Kanaka Hospital at Fairymead.
 9. An outbreak of epidemic pneumonia at Ipswich.
 10. Dairy inspection.
 11. Fees to be paid by private practitioners for examination of specimens at the Bacteriological Institute.

7.—SPECIAL INQUIRIES.

- Special Inquiries.**
1. The Brisbane Grammar School v. the Bacteriological Institute.
 2. The Sanitary Depot of Booroodabin in Windsor Shire.
 3. The Sanitary Depot of Toowoomba in Drayton Shire.
- N.B.—In all the above inquiries the action taken by the Department was upheld.

8.—NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notification of Infectious Diseases. Part VII. of the Health Act provides for general provisions, precautions against the spread, and notification of, infectious diseases. Previous to the year 1901, there was no record of the cases notified. In February of last year I instituted a system of notification, and it is now possible to arrive at the zymotic deathrate per 1,000 of the inhabitants.

Every medical practitioner attending on or called in to visit the patient must, on becoming aware that the patient is affected with any infectious disease, or in the case of death from phthisis, within forty-eight hours thereafter send to the Local Authority a certificate stating the name of the patient, the situation of the house, and the infectious disease with which the patient is or was affected. The clerk of the Local Authority forthwith reports the receipt of, or sends the certificate to the Commissioner.

A fee of 2s. 6d. to the medical practitioner for every case notified is allowed, and a penalty of £5 imposed on failure to send the report.

On receipt of the report the clerk to the Joint Epidemic Board is communicated with, and the necessary disinfection of the premises carried out by the officers of that board.

In order that the medical officer to the Metropolitan Joint Board (who was also at that time medical officer of health to the component Local Authorities comprising the Joint Board) should be in a better position to learn of the cases from one, rather than from some twenty different sources, the experiment of notifying all cases to the secretary of the Joint Board instead of to the clerk to the Local Authority was tried.

The medical officer to the Joint Board failed to carry out his duties in this connection, and each component Local Authority subsequently appointed its own medical officer of health.

The system as provided under Section 134 of "The Health Act of 1903" was thereupon reverted to.

A tabulated statement of the number of cases notified during the year 1901 will be found in the Appendix.



9.—FOOD SUPPLIES.

Regulations, based upon the report of the English Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into the use of preservatives and colouring matters in the preservation and colouring of food, have been gazetted. Standards for foodstuffs have been fixed, the amount of preservative (if any allowed) stated, and injurious ingredients declared. Food Supplies.
Standards.

I have corresponded with the various health authorities of the Commonwealth on the subject of "fictitious essences," and invited some uniform ruling, if possible, on the matter.

Queensland has always led the vanguard in the matter of food adulteration. Much praise is due to Mr Henderson, the Government Analyst, for his long-continued and untiring efforts to secure a wholesome food and drink supply to the community of this State. The Queensland Health Department was the first in the Commonwealth to issue regulations framed on the recommendations of the Department Committee. It is the duty of the inspectors of the Local Authorities to inspect food supplies and collect samples for analysis.

Now that standards have been fixed, there should be no excuse in this connection for their neglect of duty. Unfortunately, little or nothing has been done by the Local Authorities to procure samples and prosecute offenders. Inspectors.

Everything is expected of, and thrown upon, my Department to take the necessary action in this matter of food adulteration. With the small number of inspectors at my disposal, it is impossible for me to carry out this very important work.

I have already dealt fully with the subject of adulteration in my Report issued to Parliament last year.

I would beg to draw attention to a matter which has lately come under my notice.

A large number of tuberculous cattle have lately been sold and slaughtered. This meat is not examined before being placed on the local markets. All the meat for export trade is strictly examined by expert inspectors, yet the meat placed on the markets here for home consumption is under no observation, and is frequently quite unfit for human consumption. In the cases referred to above the chief inspector of the Stock Department gave his prompt and cordial co-operation, with the result that the carcasses were condemned. Unsound Meat.

A large number of crates of rotten and unsound fruit has been confiscated by my inspectors during the past year. Unsound Fruit.

10.—WATER SUPPLIES.

The Health Act of the State of Queensland makes no provision for the control or protection of water supplies.

11.—PLAGUE.

The outbreaks of bubonic plague in Brisbane have not been altogether an unmixed evil. There is no sanitary reformer like an epidemic of some dread disease. A great sanitary awakening, both of the local authority and the more intelligent citizens of the parent municipality, was lately brought about by the recent recrudescence of plague in Brisbane. The city was thoroughly cleaned under my order of May last, and some 2,330 loads of filth removed and taken out to sea, in addition to a large quantity destroyed by fire. Plague.

A special Report on the three outbreaks of bubonic plague in Queensland is now in course of preparation. This Report is intended as an official record of the State Department as well as for the purposes of information to the health authorities of the States of the Commonwealth (as per agreement of the Plague Conference held in Melbourne in 1900). Up to the present time I have, for some unintelligible reason, been unable to secure the reports of the medical officer to the Metropolitan Joint Board for the Prevention of Infectious Diseases of the clinical histories, &c., of the cases treated at Colmslie Hospital by the Board's officers. Until that clinical data be supplied me it will be impossible for me to complete the Report. Special Report.

Since taking over full control of plague matters throughout the State, in July last, I have found it essential to reorganise the administration of the Plague Regulations. The various Joint Boards, for the Prevention of Epidemic Diseases, with the notable exceptions of Brisbane and Rockhampton, had little or no existing machinery either to meet a recrudescence or prevent an outbreak of plague in their districts. The Joint Board for the Prevention of Epidemic or Infectious Diseases.

The danger of multiplying authorities for the purposes of sanitary administration—one authority constituted in accordance with the laws relating to local government, and having one set of functions and powers over limited areas, and another authority, the Joint Board, differently constituted, and exercising limited functions over a wide area—is that it is apt to lead to confusion and overlapping of the work required by the different independent governing bodies.

The Plague Regulations are now administered entirely by the central authority—the Department of Public Health at Brisbane.

The arrangements now almost completed to meet an epidemic, or prevent a recrudescence of plague in the large centres, other than at Brisbane, are briefly as follows:— Plague in other centres of the State.
Arrangements.

1. (A) The Government medical officers at the various ports to be gazetted as health officers for the purposes of "The Health Act of 1900."

(B) Such officers will act solely as my deputies, and will be charged with the administration of the Infectious Diseases Regulations relating to plague, cholera, and smallpox in lieu of the Joint Epidemic Board.

(C) Such officers will receive a retaining fee of £10, and such other fees as the Central Board of Health, with the sanction of the Minister, may consider equitable.

2. As far as possible, and where no plague hospital is available, some reasonable arrangement will be made with the governing body of the general hospitals to isolate and treat cases of plague in tents (temporarily) and in a suitable and isolated building (permanently) to be erected at the Government expense in or near the hospital grounds.

3. The Medical Staff of the Hospital to have sole control and management of the cases under their observation.

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I am glad to state that this arrangement has already been made, with satisfactory results, at Townsville, Rockhampton, and Gladstone.

4. The duties respectively of the Hospital Medical Officer and the Government Medical Officer have been clearly defined in order to prevent any possible friction or overlapping of the work required of each officer.

5. The Government Medical Officer will—

- (1) Visit all cases, or suspicious cases, which are to be reported to him;
- (2) Make his diagnosis;
- (3) Obtain confirmatory evidence of the medical practitioner reporting the case;
- (4) Have results verified by bacteriological examination;
- (5) Report result to the Commissioner;
- (6) Send the cases for isolation to the plague building in charge of the hospital authorities, or to the Plague Hospital under his own care (where the former arrangement cannot be made) as the case may be;
- (7) Supervise "contacts" and examine them daily during the incubation period;
- (8) See to the disinfection and cleansing of the premises where case taken from;
- (9) Carry out the regulations *re* disposal of the dead;
- (10) Arrange for the destruction of rats in the district;
- (11) Keep sufficient supplies of curative serum;
- (12) Generally, take such action as the Commissioner may from time to time direct;

N.B.—The Government Medical Officers have expressed a willingness and a cordial support in discharging the above duties.

6. Where no arrangement can be made with the committee of a general hospital, and where a plague hospital is already erected and in good repair, as *e.g.* Mackay, Cairns, Bundaberg, Maryborough, &c., the Government Medical Officer will arrange for the medical and nursing treatment of the cases.

7. The Local Authorities will be required to keep their districts in a cleanly and sanitary condition, and take such action as their Medical Officer of Health may, with my sanction, indicate to eliminate all conditions likely to foster plague.

- I. Chief Inspector Simpson, of the Health Department, has already left on a visit to the Northern ports to inspect and report upon the sanitary circumstances of these centres.
- II. Inspector Daniel accompanies him to instruct two local and reliable men, to be engaged by the Government Medical Officer, in the work of rat destruction, the preparation of baits, the disinfecting of premises, and the precautions to be observed against the spread of the disease. A sufficient quantity of rat poison and disinfectants, also the necessary apparatus for the demonstration of disinfecting premises, have been sent with the inspectors.
- III. The Government Medical Officers and the medical officers attached to the general hospital have been supplied with sufficient quantities of the curative serum and surgical appliances for injection of same.
- IV. An experienced bacteriologist from the Bacteriological Institute will shortly visit these towns to examine rats for plague infection, and give such instruction in the methods employed as may be considered necessary.

12—EXOTIC DISEASES.

The proximity of Queensland to Batavia and other foreign ports, which are always to be labelled "dangerous," the long coastline of the State, the numerous ports, and the number of over-sea vessels visiting these ports, expose Queensland to the danger of imported diseases.

At the present time of drought, considerable quantities of fodder for cattle are being imported from many foreign ports. The wrappings and sacking enclosing this produce is a possible vehicle of introducing "germs" of a very contagious nature. It is difficult to see how, without great delay, expense, and harassment to the shipping and commercial communities of the State, precautionary measures are to be insisted upon.

Finally, the health of the community as a whole is good, due, doubtless, in a measure to the large amount of sunshine.

The proud claim to "the healthiest town in Queensland" is disputed by quite a number of the Local Authorities.

I have, &c.,

B. BURNETT HAM, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. (Camb.),
Commissioner of Public Health.

REPORTS BY MEDICAL OFFICERS.

ABSTRACT of REPORTS made by the MEDICAL OFFICERS of HEALTH to the LOCAL AUTHORITIES for YEAR ending DECEMBER, 1901.

M = Municipality. S = Shire. D = Divisional Board.

Name.	Medical Officer of Health.	Report.
Allora M. ...	None appointed ...	9 cases of infectious diseases notified (7 enteric).
Blackall M. ...	H. J. Hewer, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.S.A.	Health of district good. Cesspit system in vogue throughout.
Bowen M. ...	No information ...	No report forwarded.
Brisbane M. ...	A. C. F. Halford, M.D., Melb.	No report forwarded.
Bundaberg M. ...	No permanent appointment; G.M.O. when required	No report forwarded.
Cairns M. ...	No information ...	No report forwarded.
Charleville M. ...	No information ...	No report forwarded.
Charters Towers M. ...	A. Vores, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.S.A.	No report forwarded.
Clermont M. ...	R. B. Simmins, M.B.M.S., Edin.	Health very good, 7 cases of enteric notified (3 fatal).
Cooktown M. ...	A. H. F. B. Kortum, M.D., Ch. D., Berlin	Good throughout, no infectious disease notified; 2 deaths from beriberi, 3 from malaria.
Croyden M. ...	N. A. A. Trenow, L.R.C.S., Ire., L.S.A.	Health better and town cleaner than in previous years, much general and special cleansing and sanitary work done with good result. Enteric fever 19 cases notified, continued fever 12 cases, scarlet fever 4 cases.
Dalby M. ...	No information ...	No report forwarded.
Gayndah M. ...	P. L. Townley, M.B.M., Ch. Syd.	Health good; 32 cases enteric notified during first 4 months, none since; adoption of dry-earth pan system <i>pro</i> cesspit of great benefit.
Gladstone M. ...	M. M. Lyons, M.B.B.S., Melb.	Health good; two outbreaks of enteric in the board's area, 25 cases in all with 3 deaths. Good sanitary work has been done.
Goondiwindi M. ...	None appointed ...	No infectious diseases notified.
Gympie M. ...	J. R. Ryan, L.R.C.S., Ire., L.L.M., K.Q.C.P., Ire.	Health very good (death rate, 7.7 per 1,000), 23 cases of enteric notified with 3 deaths. A new and purer water supply has been obtained; general sanitary condition of town is good.
Herberton M. ...	No information ...	No report forwarded.
Hughenden M. ...	R. H. Symes, L.R.C.S., Ire., L.L.M., K.Q.C.P., Ire.	Health good; advisability of introducing duplicate pan system; desirability of better water supply. Dirty and insanitary condition of streets.
Ipswich M. ...	R. Macdonald, M.B., M.S., Glas.	Abnormally large number of epidemic diseases were prevalent; 38 cases of enteric notified, 45 diphtheria, 5 scarlet. Diphtheria outbreak attributed to bad and defective drainage. A new sanitary and refuse disposal system is needed throughout.
Mackay M. ...	A. P. Henzell, M.B., B.S., Melb.	Health good; 26 cases of infectious diseases notified. Considerable amount of sewage construction effected. Rat destruction carried on.
Maryborough M. ...	J. C. Robertson, M.D.M.S., Glas.	Health good; 35 cases of enteric notified (3 deaths), 15 cases scarlet, 7 diphtheria. Necessity for proper storage and removal of house and shop refuse. Good work has been done in cleansing. Rat destruction has been carried on.
Mount Morgan M. ...	S. J. Richards, M.B.M., Ch. Syd.	Enteric has been more prevalent than in previous years; 25 cases of enteric notified, 14 cases of diphtheria. Need for proper surface and waste water drainage; pollution of shallow surface wells, use of town sewage in Chinese gardens. Need for new by-laws relating to nuisances. Overcrowding of local State schools.
Normanton M. ...	Name not given ...	No report forwarded.
Rockhampton M. ...	H. South, M.B., B.S., Melb.	Free from any serious epidemic; 28 cases of scarlet notified; 62 cases enteric notified, 14 diphtheria, 10 deaths from phthisis. Lodging-houses and aliens' dwellings inspected and improved. Rat destruction carried on; deficiencies in drainage made good. Sanitary system rendered more efficient—extension of pan system.
Rockhampton North M. ...	H. South, M.B., B.S., Melb.	See above.
Roma M. ...	No information ...	No report forwarded.
Sandgate M. ...	G. Davidson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Eng.	Health good, death rate low; 3 cases of enteric, 4 cases scarlet notified.
South Brisbane M. ...	A. C. F. Halford, M.D., Melb.	No report forwarded.
Toowoomba M. ...	T. W. Garde, L.A.H., Dubl., L.R.C.P. & S., Ed.	Health fairly good, remarkably free from serious epidemics; 5 deaths from enteric, 18 deaths from phthisis, 26 from gastro-enteritis. <i>Needed</i> .—Hospital for infectious diseases, dairy inspector. Public abattoirs. Earth pan system <i>pro</i> cesspit system.
Townsville ...	G. W. F. Paul, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Eng., M.D., Brussels	Health very good. There have been many cases of enteric. Owing to the drought the water supply has deteriorated. A systematic removal of rubbish has been decided on, but not yet instituted. The drainage system is poor.
Warwick M. ...	A. C. Holt, M.B., Syd.	No report forwarded.
Coorparoo S. ...	A. C. F. Halford, M.D., Melb.	No report forwarded.
Drayton S. ...	T. W. Garde, L.A.H., Dubl., L.R.C.P. & S., Ed.	See Toowoomba above.
Middle Ridge S. ...	T. W. Garde, L.A.H., Dubl., L.R.C.P. & S., Ed.	See Toowoomba above.
Ithaca S. ...	A. C. F. Halford, M.D., Melb.	No report forwarded.
Toowong S. ...	A. C. F. Halford, M.D., Melb.	No report forwarded.
Windsor S. ...	A. C. F. Halford, M.D., Melb.	No report forwarded.
Adavale D. ...	None appointed ...	No report forwarded.
Antigua D. ...	None appointed ...	No report forwarded.
Aramac D. ...	L. N. Ashworth, M.B., B.S., Melb.	Good throughout; 1 case of infectious disease notified. Rubbish-tip needs to be removed further from township.

ABSTRACT of REPORTS made by the MEDICAL OFFICERS of HEALTH to the LOCAL AUTHORITIES for YEAR ending DECEMBER, 1901—continued.

M = Municipality. S = Shire. D = Divisional Board.

Name.	Medical Officer of Health.	Report.
Ayr D.	A. Cole, L.R.C.S., Ire., L.L.M., K.Q.C.P., Ire.	24 cases of enteric on neighbouring plantation; 1 death (South Sea Islander); 1 case of enteric in Ayr township. The adoption of dry-earth pan system has been followed by good results. Decided improvement in health on previous years.
Balmoral D.	A. C. F. Halford, M.D., Melb.	No report forwarded.
Banana D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Barcaldine D.	Name not given	No report forwarded.
Barcoo D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Barolin D.	See Bundaberg	See Bundaberg.
Barron D.	See Cairns	See Cairns.
Bauhinia D.	Name not given	No report forwarded.
Beenleigh D.	None appointed	4 cases of infectious diseases notified; 3 enteric.
Belmont D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Belyando D.	No permanent appointment	No report forwarded.
Boorooma D.	M.O.H. has left the district	No report forwarded.
Booroodabin D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Boulia D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Brassall D.	See Ipswich	See Ipswich.
Broadsound D.	None appointed	No infectious diseases notified.
Bulloo D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Bundamba D.	See Ipswich	See Ipswich.
Bungil D.	See Roma	See Roma.
Burke D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Burrum D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Caboolture D.	None appointed	1 case of infectious disease notified—enteric.
Cairns D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Calliope D.	See Gladstone	See Gladstone.
Cardwell D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Carpentaria D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Cleveland D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Clifton D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Coomera D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Croydon D.	<i>Vide ante</i>	<i>Vide ante.</i>
Cloncurry D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Daintree D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Dalrymple D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Diamantina D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Douglas D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Duaringa D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Eidsvold D.	Name not given	No infectious disease notified.
Einaaleigh D.	Name not given	2 cases of infectious disease notified—scarlet.
Esk D.	J. I. Moore, M.D., Brux, F.R.C.S., Ire.	Health fairly satisfactory; 5 cases of enteric (1 death); 3 cases diphtheria (1 death). Necessity for proper sanitary system in Esk township.
Enoggera D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Fitzroy D.	See Rockhampton	See Rockhampton.
Glengallan D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Gooburrum D.	See Bundaberg	See Bundaberg.
Gogango D.	See Rockhampton	See Rockhampton.
Goolman D.	J. Larwill, L.R.C.P. et. S., Ed.	7 cases of enteric notified; necessity for proper nightsoil system and waste-water drainage system; 46 per cent. of deaths were not certified by a registered practitioner.
Gowrie D.	See Toowoomba	See Toowoomba.
Granville D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Hamilton D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Hann D.	None appointed	No infectious diseases notified.
Herberton D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Highfields D.	See Toowoomba	See Toowoomba.
Hinchinbrook D.	None at present	No report forwarded.
Hughenden D.	<i>Vide ante</i>	<i>Vide ante.</i>
Indooroopilly D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Inglewood D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Isis D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Johnstone D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Jondaryan D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Kargoolnah D.	Name not given	No report forwarded.
Kilkivan D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Kolan D.	None during 1901	No report forwarded.
Laidley D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Longreach D.	A. E. Hewer, M.R.C.S.L.R.C.P., Eng., M.B. Camb.	Health better than in previous years; 16 cases of enteric were notified (3 deaths)—best record for many years; gastro-enteritis caused 10 deaths, mostly children; general sanitary condition of the town is good; an improved closet system has been adopted.
Mackinlay D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Maroochy D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Murilla D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Murweh D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Mutdapilly D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Nanango D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Normanby D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Nebo D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Nerang D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Kedron D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Paroo D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.

ABSTRACT OF REPORTS made by the MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH to the LOCAL AUTHORITIES for YEAR ending DECEMBER, 1901—continued.

M = Municipality. S = Shire. D = Divisional Board.

Name.	Medical Officer of Health.	Report.
Peak Downs D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Perry D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Pioneer D.	See Mackay	See Mackay.
Purga D.	See Ipswich	See Ipswich.
Ravenswood D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Rawbelle D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Redcliffe D.	None appointed	1 case of infectious disease notified.
Rosalie D.	See Toowoomba	See Toowoomba.
Rosewood D.	See Ipswich	See Ipswich.
Rosenthal D.	No information	No report forwarded
Sherwood D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Southport D.	None appointed	3 cases infectious disease notified—diphtheria.
Stanthorpe D.	A. Oton, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.S.A.	Health good throughout; 1 case of enteric notified. Necessity for proper sanitary system.
Stephens D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Tabragalba D.	A. Pring, L.R.C.P., Eng.	Health good throughout; 1 case of infectious disease notified—scarlet. An area for nightsoil and rubbish disposal has been obtained. No general scheme for waste-water drainage. Rat destruction has been urged on the inhabitants.
Tambourine D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Tambo D.	G. C. Cory, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.S.A.	Health good throughout; 2 cases of infectious disease notified—scarlet. Cesspit system is still in vogue.
Tarampa D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Taringa D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Taroom D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Thuringowa D.	See Townsville	See Townsville.
Tiaro D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Tinana D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Tinaroo D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Tingalpa D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Toombul D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Torres D.	No information	2 cases of enteric notified.
Ula Ula D.	F. Hitch, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.S.A.	No infectious disease notified.
Waggamba D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Walsh D.	G. E. Blanchard, L.R.C.P. & S., Ed., L.F.P.S.	Health very good throughout; 6 cases of enteric (1 death). Cesspit system in vogue, pan system considered impracticable.
Walloon D.	See Ipswich	See Ipswich.
Wambo D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Wangaratta D.	See Bowen	See Bowen.
Warroo D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Waterford D.	None appointed	No infectious disease notified.
Widgee D.	None appointed	No report forwarded.
Winton D.	W. D. Bowkett, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.S.A.	No report forwarded.
Woongarra D.	See Bundaberg	See Bundaberg.
Woothakata D.	No information	No report forwarded.
Wynnum D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.
Yeerongpilly D.	See Brisbane	See Brisbane.

REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR TO HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Office of the Commissioner of Public Health,
Brisbane, 11th February, 1902.

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following Report of the work done in my department during the year 1901:—

FOOD AND DRUG SAMPLES.—On taking up my duties on 11th February, 1901, acting under your direction I procured samples of ales, porter, wines, flavouring essences, and soft drinks, &c., which were submitted to the Government Analyst for examination and report.

INSPECTIONS.—Eight hundred and seventy-five (875) visits of inspection have been made to premises in and around Brisbane; these inspections have been repeated in many cases for the second and third time. Many of my inspections in the more insanitary districts have been from house to house, and revealed a state of affairs which called for prompt action on the part of the local authorities. A large proportion of these dwellings have no properly constructed drains; in many cases simply a rut dug in the ground, which frequently runs underneath the house, thus contaminating the whole surroundings. This latter circumstance is very much aggravated where there is no method of collection and disposal of household refuse, in consequence of decaying animal and vegetable matter being allowed to collect in the vicinity of the dwellings.

SERVICE OF NOTICES RE NUISANCES.—One hundred and fifteen (115) notices have been served on the different local authorities, calling their attention to nuisances existing within their districts. The majority of these notices have received prompt attention.

BAKEHOUSES.—Forty (40) bakehouses in the city and suburbs have been inspected. As a rule, the premises have been found in a clean condition. The drainage of many of them is defective, some having no drains whatever. Where defects of this kind have been found, action has been taken to have the matter remedied. I have not met with any underground bakeries in Brisbane.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—Eighteen (18) slaughter-houses within a 25-mile radius of Brisbane have also been inspected. The general conditions of these premises are satisfactory, when one takes into account the many disadvantages which have to be overcome in the disposal of offal, blood, &c. The water supply of some of the older establishments requires to be augmented, and instructions have been given accordingly. The pig pens are mostly situated at some considerable distance from the slaughter-yards. The methods employed in conveying the meat supplies from outlying districts to Brisbane in open carts and wagons across miles of dusty roads are far from satisfactory, even although some pretence at covering the meat with calico is resorted to.

Nothing short of the erection of public abattoirs will place this industry on a satisfactory basis.

DAIRIES.—A number of the dairies in the districts around Brisbane have been inspected. In the majority of cases structural alterations on byres, improved drainage, &c., is most necessary.

In many instances, instead of serving notices, I have had personal interviews with the inspectors of the various local authorities, and arranged for the abatement of nuisances with gratifying results.

SWAMPS.—Swamps have been drained; low-lying stagnant waterholes have been filled up; new drains laid, altered, or repaired. The various local authorities and their officers have evinced a desire to work in harmony with our department.

WHARVES.—The city wharves have received my constant attention. The objectionable practice formerly indulged in by dealers who picked over fruit and left the unsound and valueless residue to rot on the wharves has now ceased. Since the introduction of properly constructed rubbish bins at your instigation, the wharves have been kept in a cleanly condition.

UN SOUND FRUIT.—One hundred and nine (109) crates of unsound bananas, weighing 34 tons 14 cwt., have been seized on the wharves during the year.

Forty-six (46) bags of rotten potatoes weighing 3 tons 17 cwt., two and one-half (2½) bags of onions, one hundred and seventy-three (173) cases of apples, pears, lemons, &c., and one case of boiled beef have been condemned and destroyed.

Five (5) baskets of unsound bananas exposed for sale at shop doors were also seized and condemned as unfit for the food of man.

I have endeavoured as far as possible to impress upon shopkeepers the error of exposing fruit, vegetables, and other foodstuffs on the footpaths, inviting the attention of stray dogs, as well as contamination from dust, horse litter, and other sources. This practice is a most objectionable one.

COMPLAINTS.—Twenty-one (21) complaints in writing have been received and attended to.

SCHOOLS.—Thirty (30) of the State schools in and around Brisbane have been inspected; many of the schools are overcrowded, some have only a limited water supply, whilst many of the water tanks require renewal at schools dependent on rain-water supply. The closet accommodation at several of the schools needs more light and ventilation. In one instance I found the convenience provided almost in total darkness.

Since the appointment of Mr. Wilson as Assistant Inspector to the Department, I have been able to devote more time to outlying areas.

SANITARY SERVICES.—All the sanitary depôts of the various local authorities have been inspected, some being under our constant supervision. Where the methods of disposal by burial have not been in accordance with natural conditions, advice and instruction have been given to the persons concerned, and invariably well received.

The following is a list of the local authorities comprising the metropolitan joint area, and the sanitary service adopted by each of those bodies:—

MUNICIPALITIES.					
Brisbane	...	...	...	...	Duplicate pan
South Brisbane	...	...	...	...	Sea burial
Sandgate	...	...	...	...	Duplicate pan—Burial
SHIRES.					
Toowong	...	...	...	...	Duplicate pans—Destruction by fire
Windsor	...	...	...	...	Duplicate pans—Burial
Ithaca	...	...	...	...	Single pan—Dump cart—Burial
Coorparoo	...	...	...	...	Single pan—Dump cart—Burial
DIVISIONAL BOARDS.					
Booroodabin	...	...	...	...	Duplicate pan—Burial
Hamilton	...	...	...	...	Duplicate pan—Burial at sea
Toombul	...	...	...	...	Duplicate pan—Burial at sea
Taringa	...	...	...	...	Single pan—Dump cart—Burial
Stephens	...	...	...	...	Single pan—Dump cart—Burial
Wynnum	...	...	...	...	Single pan—Dump cart—Burial
Balmoral	...	...	...	...	Single pan—Dump cart—Burial
Belmont	...	...	...	...	No service
Kedron	...	...	...	...	No service
Enoggera	...	...	...	...	No service
Indooroopilly	...	...	...	...	No service
Yeerongpilly	...	...	...	...	No service
Sherwood	...	...	...	...	No service

PIGGERIES.—Several piggeries in the vicinity of Brisbane have also been inspected; some of these are kept in good order, but a radical change is urgently required in the construction of styts and houses, also in the drainage. I wish to particularly call attention to the objectionable custom some of the pig-feeders have of carting their pig-feed in open drays through the streets of the city in the daytime, the liquid matter oozing through the seams of the carts on to the public thoroughfares. By-laws under section 70 of "The Health Act of 1900" should be made and passed by the local authorities through whose areas those carts have to travel.

FUMIGATION OF VESSELS.—The systematic fumigation of all vessels leaving Brisbane, as well as the collection of certificates of fumigation, has been carried out by this department since the outbreak of plague in February last. The following is a list of the vessels fumigated here to 31st December, 1901:—

Local steamers fumigated with sulphur	...	...	...	...	170
" " " " formalin	...	...	...	...	3
Interstate steamers fumigated with sulphur	...	...	...	...	82
" " " " formalin	...	...	...	...	2
Oversea steamers fumigated with sulphur	...	...	...	...	64
" " " " formalin	...	...	...	...	42
Oversea sailing ships fumigated, sulphur	...	...	...	...	14
Total of vessels fumigated	...	...	...	...	377

I have not yet been able to complete my inspection of tanneries and kindred trades, but when time permits I hope to be able to extend my operations in this as well as in other directions.

I have, &c.,
JOHN SIMPSON,
Sanitary Inspector.

South Brisbane Municipal Council are proceeding with the abatement.
 Booroodabin Divisional Board have abated nearly all the nuisances complained of, and the work has been done to the satisfaction of an inspector of this department.
 No notices have been sent to Ithaca or Toowong Shire Councils.

Office of the Commissioner of Public Health,
 25th September, 1902.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE AND RESULTS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN.

Notices to owners or occupiers delivered in infected area...	916
No. of inspections made in Booroodabin ...	1,807
Re-inspections in South Brisbane ...	275
Re-inspections in Brisbane infected area ...	46
Results on work done—	
No. of premises cleaned in Booroodabin ...	131
No. of premises cleaned in South Brisbane ...	32
No. of new drains constructed in Booroodabin ...	94
Old drains repaired, trapped, &c., in Booroodabin ...	83

Also, 5 new closets have been erected, and 8 old closets have been repaired.

Intimation Notices.

23 intimation notices were sent to the South Brisbane Municipal Council *re* faulty drains, &c.

A. J. TUCKER,
 Assistant Inspector.

Office of the Commissioner of Public Health,
 25th September, 19 2.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY INSPECTOR BOYLE.

Notices to occupiers delivered in Brisbane ...	298
Premises inspected in South Brisbane ...	823
Notices served on South Brisbane Municipal Council ...	119

Complaints made in above notices.

No drainage ...	16
Untrapped drains ...	11
Insufficient urinal accommodation ...	9
Otherwise defective drainage ...	73
Dirty closets ...	21
Defective closets ...	9
Defective stables ...	9
No manure receptacles ...	12
Dirty yards ...	45
Dilapidated outbuildings ...	7
Insufficient closet accommodation ...	4
Minor nuisances ...	17

The South Brisbane Municipal Council have acknowledged receipt of "intimation of nuisances" notices, and state the matter is being attended to.

Office of the Commissioner of Public Health,
 25th September, 1902.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY INSPECTOR MUNRO TO DATE.

Notices to occupiers delivered ...	2,265
Premises inspected in Brisbane ...	1,249
Notices served on Brisbane Municipal Council ...	473
Result of notices—Premises attended to up to 4th September, 1902 ...	28

Complaints made in above notices—

Allotments filled with street sweepings, &c. ...	3	Attended to.
Untrapped drains to sewer ...	135	14
Otherwise defective drainage ...	92	2
No drainage ...	93	1
Dirty premises ...	63	10
Dilapidated outbuildings and closets ...	31	1
Unsatisfactory closets ...	38	
No manure receptacles ...	35	
Dirty lanes ...	4	
Dirty vacant allotments ...	10	
Other minor nuisances ...	34	

I have re-inspected, in conjunction with Inspector Tucker, 275 premises in South Brisbane previously inspected by Inspector Boyle, and 23 notices have been served on the South Brisbane Municipal Council as the result.

W. H. A. MUNRO,
 Inspector.

Office of the Commissioner of Public Health,
 25th September, 1902.

INSPECTION OF DAIRIES, 1901.

Seven hundred and seventy-one (771) dairies were periodically inspected in the following divisions, viz.:—South Brisbane, Ithaca, Toowong, Taringa, Indooroopilly, Enoggera, Windsor, Nundah, Toombul, Hamilton, Booroodabin, North Brisbane, Coorparoo, Balmoral, Belmont, Stephens, Yeerongpilly, Sherwood, Sandgate, Tingalpa, Wynnum, Southport, Ipswich, Purga, Bundamba, Brassall, Norminby, and Cleveland.

The majority of dairies were reported as being as clean as could be reasonably expected under the present working of "The Health Act Amendment Act of 1886," but a number of dairies have neither suitable accommodation for their cows and milking utensils, nor sufficient land at their disposal for erecting such necessities.

This class of dairy requires constant attention to keep them in anything like a sanitary condition, and particularly calls for additional legislation dealing with the construction and registration of all dairies.

- 23 per cent. dairies were milking one (1) or two (2) cows.
- 19 per cent. dairies were milking three (3) to five (5) cows.
- 21 per cent. dairies were milking six (6) to ten (10) cows.
- 37 per cent. dairies were milking more than ten cows.

One thousand eight hundred and fifty-six (1,856) cows were examined, and forty-one (41) were condemned as being unfit for dairy purposes from the following causes:—

Diseased mammary gland	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculosis and emaciation with enlarged lymphatic glands	...	...	...	...	...	6
Malignant growths	...	...	...	...	...	9
Diseased eyes	...	...	...	...	...	11
Chronic suppurating sores	...	...	...	...	...	3
Neoplasms (vaginal)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diseased lungs	...	...	...	...	...	6
Malignant oedema	...	...	...	...	...	1

• Since dairy inspection has been in force, a number of suspicious and diseased cows have been turned away from the dairy herds before an opportunity occurred for examining them.

Various outside districts were visited to ascertain as far as possible where dairy inspection was most needed, viz.:—Gatton and Laidley, where approximately 80 per cent. of the ratepayers are dairying; Beaudesert (Tabragalba), 50 per cent. said to be dairying; Beenleigh, 25 per cent. dairying. Other districts previously visited and reported upon.

An outbreak of *Macrozamia* (Moorei?) on the Blackall Range was investigated.

SUMS RECEIVED AND DISBURSEMENTS MADE BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR YEAR ENDING 1901.

EXTRACT FROM ACCOUNTS, NORTH BRISBANE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Rates Levied for the Year 1901.

Ward.	Valuation.	General Rates.	Cleansing Rates.	Totals.
	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
East Ward ...	1,981,998	12,388 1 1	2,120 8 3	14,508 9 4
West Ward ...	2,300,367	14,378 2 8	2,931 15 3	17,309 17 11
North Ward ...	517,859	3,237 9 4	2,033 12 6	5,271 1 10
Valley Ward ...	738,126	4,614 1 3	1,998 10 6	6,612 11 9
Kangaroo Point Ward ...	292,459	1,828 6 3	934 11 6	2,762 17 9
TOTALS ...	£5,830,809	£36,446 0 7	£10,018 18 0	£46,464 18 7

21st January, 1902.

R. B. HALL,
City Accountant.

EXTRACT FROM SOUTH BRISBANE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL'S STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for the YEAR ending 31st DECEMBER, 1901.

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURE.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cleansing Rates ... 7,305 8 10	Drainage ... 1,073 4 2
Private Drains ... 619 8 9	Sanitary Service ... 6,347 0 11
	Private Drains ... 927 3 2
£7,924 17 7	£8,347 8 3

MUNICIPALITIES, SHIRE COUNCILS, AND DIVISIONAL BOARDS.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Metdaplilly Divisional Board—	Croydon Municipal Council—
Allowance to Clerk and Overseer for looking after dairies and diseased cows and other stock ... 15 0 0	Health officer ... 15 15 0
Burning a carcass ... 1 10 0	Kilkies Divisional Board—
	Report on death by Phthisis ... 0 2 6
Refund ... 16 10 0	Hinchinbrook Divisional Board—
	Health officer ... 25 0 0
	Ula Ula Divisional Board—
Gooburrum Divisional Board—	Destruction of garbage, &c., at rubbish tip ... 1 12 0
Sanitary receipts ... 245 0 0	Destruction of dead beasts ... 4 0 0
Sanitary contracts ... 200 0 0	Destruction of diseased goat (cancer) ...
Sanitary inspector ... 26 0 0	Medical officer (quarter's salary) ... 2 10 0
Advertising ... 19 0 0	
	8 2 0
490 0 0	Municipality of Gympie—
Belgando Divisional Board—	Disinfectants ... 39 6 6
Health officer (Report on Typhoid) ... 21 0 0	Improving sewer ... 143 4 9
Barcalpine Divisional Board—	Cremation of animals ... 45 2 6
Health officer ... 20 0 0	Health officer ... 31 10 0
Charleville Municipality—	Removing contents rubbish boxes ... 50 0 0
Dry earth-closet system ... 107 12 1	
	309 3 9
	Balance ... 220 4 0
	529 7 9

SUMS RECEIVED AND DISBURSEMENTS MADE BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR YEAR ENDING 1901—continued.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Tingalpa Divisional Board—				Thaca Shire Council—				
Expenditure	0	17	6	Expenditure—				
Receipts	0	5	0	Kelvin Grove drain	304	2	0	
				Medical officer	5	5	6	
Waterford Divisional Board—				Inspector	8	0	0	
Plague case—				Epidemic Board	136	14	7	
Attendance Joint Board	1	5	0	Epidemic Board	66	3	3	
Dr. McEvoy	6	6	0	Milton drain	11	5	0	
	7	11	0	Milton drain	86	12	6	
				Home Secretary (disinfectants)	37	11	3	
Beaulleigh Divisional Board—				Barcoona road drainage	5	14	0	
Cleaning, sluicing, and disinfecting				Eureka road	93	13	11	
waterholes and drains	17	8	6	Glen street	85	14	0	
Wages	12	0	0	Wages, men disinfecting water tables	304	4	0	
Total	29	8	6	Musgrave road drainage	51	17	0	
Goolman Divisional Board	21	10	6	Normanby terrace	62	13	9	
				Bell street	10	0	0	
Normanton Municipality—				Woolcock street	29	12	3	
Health officer	10	0	0	Wellington road	18	6	6	
				Hale street	7	4	6	
Shire of Toowoong—				Caroline street	72	16	5	
Receipts	1,236	15	8	Elizabeth street	42	11	3	
Expenditure—				John street	4	12	6	
Collection and destruction of nightsoil	900	1	3	Copeland street	18	7	1	
Sanitary works	13	18	7	Barcoona road	35	11	3	
	922	19	10	Fernberg street	54	10	5	
Sandgate Municipality—				Drain pipes	40	10	0	
Health rates	138	18	9	Paddington drain, cleansing	10	0	0	
Precepts	55	8	10	Stevenson street drain, cleansing	9	0	0	
Health officer	5	15	6		£1,615	6	11	
	200	3	1	Rate struck, $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in £	£1,025	16	7	
Calliope Divisional Board—								
Precepts	48	8	3	Coorparoo Shire Council—				
	35	0	0	Precepts	67	8	9	
	30	0	0					
	113	8	3	Wages for clearing rubbish	5	2	0	
Walloon Divisional Board—								
Receipts—				Rockhampton Joint Board—				
Subdivision 1 ... £90 10 0				To Balance forward, 31st December, 1900	25	8	3	
Subdivision 2 ... 47 18 4								
Subdivision 3 ... 39 18 7				Precepts—				
	178	6	11	Rockhampton Municipal				
Expenditure—				Council	£192	7	3	
Salary	£24	0	0	West Rockhampton				
Travelling expenses	5	0	0	Borough Council	28	7	5	
Books, &c.	16	10	8	Gogango Divisional				
Destroying carcasses	2	8	6	Board	194	1	2	
Precepts	18	2	6	Fitzroy Divisional Board	103	1	1	
Bank charges	0	15	6	Mount Morgan Municipal	119	15	11	
	66	17	2	Council				
Municipality of South Brisbane—					637	12	10	
See Pamphlet.				Government Endowment	379	8	8	
Municipality of North Rockhampton—					1,017	1	6	
Rockhampton Joint Board	28	7	5	Sales—				
Medical officer	10	10	0	Equipment Account	£2	10	0	
Trenches for night soil	7	12	2	Plant	7	0	0	
	46	9	7			9	10	0
Gogango Divisional Board—				Refunds—				
Receipts	202	3	7	Disinfectants Account	£2	0	0	
Expenditure—Precepts, Epidemic Board	194	1	2	General Expenses Account	18	1	10	
				Government Account				
Ipswich Municipality—				Expenses	38	12	0	
Receipts	78	4	11		58	13	10	
Expenditure	142	6	2		1,110	13	7	
				Balance forward	126	1	6	
				Expenditure—				
				Hospital Maintenance Account	58	4	6	
				Salaries	194	18	4	
				Wages	71	8	0	
				Plant	6	12	0	
				Funeral	12	10	0	
				General Expenses	183	6	4	
				Salaries	288	11	8	
				Wages	83	1	6	
				Disinfectants	9	10	2	
				Rat Destruction	49	0	0	
				Stationery, &c.	11	10	6	
				Government Expenses	16	10	0	
				Balance at Royal Bank	126	1	6	
					1,110	13	7	

SUMS RECEIVED AND DISBURSEMENTS MADE BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR YEAR ENDING 1901—continued.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
<i>Kargoolnah Divisional Board—</i>				<i>Bundamba Divisional Board—</i>			
Health officer	£25	0	0	Removal and destruction of dead and diseased animals	19	15	0
<i>Blackall Municipality—</i>				Epidemic Board	20	9	6
Health officer	£20	0	0	Receipts—			
<i>Ennalsleigh Divisional Board—</i>				Health rate	125	12	9
Disinfectants	£12	10	0		165	17	3
<i>Charters Towers Municipal Council—</i>				<i>Hamilton Divisional Board—</i>			
Receipts—				Balance in hand from health rate, 1900	79	3	2
Half-year ending 30th June—				Health rate collected, 1901	351	12	7
General Health Rates	£56	3	4		430	15	9
Sanitary Charges	139	3	0	Precept paid, 1901	29	13	0
Half-year ending 31st December—				" " " " " " " " " " " "	59	13	5
General Health Rates	1,039	6	2	" " " " " " " " " " " "	44	15	1
Sanitary Charges	1,953	19	9	Making Gaythorn and Collingwood street drain	369	19	5
Grand Total	£3,188	12	3	Removing dead animals	2	10	1
Expenditure—				Cleaning out drains, &c.	5	2	6
Half-year ending 30th June—				Doctor's fee, reporting case	1	1	0
Scavenging channels	£275	12	4		512	14	6
Sanitary expenses	4	10	0	<i>Booroodabin Divisional Board—</i>			
Disinfectants	0	14	0	Drainage—			
Half Inspector's salary	38	0	0	Construction, general	£115	18	11
Sanitary contract	736	17	11	Construction, private	60	11	2
Vote, Joint Health Committee	50	0	0	Cleansing	239	2	9
Half-year ending 31st December—					415	12	10
Scavenging channels	231	13	5	Streets—			
Sanitary expenses	0	12	11	Cleansing	484	17	5
Manure depot	4	10	0	Sanitary Services—			
Disinfectants	1	5	0	Contract	1,375	5	0
Half Inspector's salary	39	0	0	Wages and Salaries	163	2	9
Dead animals	15	0	0	Law Costs	364	14	10
Sanitary contract	741	9	7	Precepts—			
Grand Total	£2,139	5	2	Metropolitan Joint Board	267	0	8
<i>Bundaberg Municipality—</i>				Scarlet Fever Hospital	90	7	0
Receipts—				Inspection	156	0	0
Health rates	380	18	6	Health officer	10	0	0
Cleansing rates	1,114	17	2		3,325	7	10
	1,495	15	8	<i>Sherwood Divisional Board—</i>			
Disbursement—				Precepts paid to Epidemic Joint Board	36	2	8
Wages, cleansing streets	112	15	8	<i>Toombul Divisional Board—</i>			
Sanitary contract	880	0	0	Sanitary Service—			
Salaries	153	2	6	Receipts	379	12	1
Precepts paid to Joint Board	56	2	0	Expenditure	399	1	8
General expenses	2	8	9	Removal of dead animals	9	7	0
Balance	261	6	9	Removal of sanitary depot to Nudgee	16	10	0
	1,465	15	8		804	10	9
<i>Shire of Middle Ridge—</i>				<i>Taringa Divisional Board—</i>			
Joint Board	10	7	4	Receipts—			
<i>Purga Divisional Board—</i>				Balance (being loan for sewer at Indooroopilly	150	0	0
Precepts to Joint Board	23	2	6	Sewerage rates	9	13	4
<i>Brassall Divisional Board—</i>				Payment made out of general revenue	37	1	3
Joint Board at Ipswich	21	15	0	Sundry receipts	0	17	6
<i>Brisbane Municipal Council—</i>					197	12	1
See Pamphlet.				Expenditure—			
<i>Joint Board, Gladstone—</i>				Sewer at Indooroopilly	137	14	5
Receipts—				Drain at Taringa	37	1	3
Precepts on Municipal Council	65	0	0	Balance to credit of Loan from sewer at Indooroopilly	22	16	6
" " Calliope	35	0	0		197	12	1
Endowment, per Home Secretary	10	5	6	<i>Belmont Divisional Board—</i>			
	110	5	6	M.J.B. for Prevention of Epidemic Diseases	24	13	9
Expenditure—				<i>Wynnum Divisional Board—</i>			
Wages of Health officer, Inspector, and Secretary	113	0	0	Receipts from 3d. rate	252	12	6
Sundries	51	0	5	Expenditure	228	8	3
Compensation	13	6	0	<i>Caboolture Divisional Board—</i>			
	177	6	5	Filling up stagnant hollow	5	0	0
<i>Division of Yeerongpilly—</i>							
Precept by Metropolitan Joint Board	56	7	3				
<i>Highfields Divisional Board—</i>							
Toowoomba Joint Epidemic Board	11	9	8				
<i>Barolin Divisional Board—</i>							
Precept by Joint Board for Epidemic Diseases	16	16	9				

SUMS RECEIVED AND DISBURSEMENTS MADE BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR YEAR ENDING 1901—continued.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
<i>Est Divisional Board—</i>					<i>Booranga Divisional Board—</i>				
To bottles from Water Supply Department for analysing Coal Creek water		1	10	0	Medical officer		5	0	0
To Dr. Moore to two months retaining fee as medical officer at £2. 10s per month		5	0	0	<i>Maryborough Municipality—</i>				
To Dr. Moore two visits to Coal Creek Health Account		3	15	0	<i>Receipts—</i>				
		10	5	0	Health rates		1,581	7	11
<i>Contra—</i>					Cleansing		1,730	16	11
By Water Supply Department refund...		1	0	0	Other sanitary services		341	16	4
" Rebate Ipswich Hospital		0	10	0			3,654	1	2
		1	10	0	<i>Expenditure, including wages and salaries and General health disbursements</i>				
<i>Stanthorpe Divisional Board—</i>							1,020	15	6
Health officer		10	0	0	Cleansing expenditure		3,096	10	10
<i>Cooktown Municipality—</i>					Works completed—incineration plants and plant		1,289	15	6
Retainer, Dr. Blanshard		5	5	0			5,407	1	10
Salary, Inspector Nuisances		50	0	0					
Burials of animals		7	13	0					
Daniel Beiss, for rat poisoning		8	0	0					
J. L. Adams, for rat poison		0	9	6					
		71	7	6					

STATE ANALYST.

Office of the Commissioner of Public Health,
Brisbane, 26th September, 1902.

SUMMARY OF REPORTS FROM STATE ANALYST FOR YEAR 1901.

Cert. No.	Date.	Name of Article.	Analysis.
1123	16 April	"True fruit juice of Raspberry"	Contains 28.3 per cent. of proof spirit.
1081	6 Sept.	"Raspberry"	Not genuine; contains artificial flavouring essence, is coloured with roseaniline (coal-tar dye). Contains no extract of raspberry.
1082	6 Sept.	"Raspberry"	Not genuine; contains roseaniline (coal-tar dye) and 7 grains of salicylic acid per gallon.
1101	9 Sept.	"Raspberry Syrup"	Not genuine; contains artificial essence (flavouring), 70 grains of salicylic acid per gallon, and no extract of raspberry.
1106	9 Sept.	"Raspberry Syrup"	Not genuine; contains artificial flavouring essence; 35 grains of salicylic acid per gallon, and is coloured with roseaniline (a coal-tar dye).
1108	9 Sept.	"Raspberry Vinegar"	Not genuine; contains artificial flavouring essence; coloured with roseaniline (a coal-tar dye); no extract of raspberry.
1112	9 Sept.	"Raspberry Vinegar"	Not genuine; contains artificial flavouring essence; 5.6 grains of salicylic acid per gallon; is coloured with roseaniline, and no extract of raspberry.
1102	9 Sept.	"Vinegar"	Not genuine; it is acetic acid, diluted with water, and coloured with burnt sugar.
1103	9 Sept.	"Vinegar"	Not genuine; it is acetic acid, diluted with water, and coloured with burnt sugar.
1110	9 Sept.	"Vinegar"	Not genuine; it is acetic acid, diluted with water, and coloured with burnt sugar.
1344	12 Nov.	"Port Wine Essence"	Not essence of port wine; is composed of artificial organic ethers (acetic ether, ananthic ether, &c.), alcohol, essential oils, water, and colouring matter. Unfit for human consumption.
1377	30 Nov.	"Cream of tartar"	May pass into consumption.
1463	19 Dec.	"Cream of tartar"	May pass into consumption.
1464	19 Dec.	"Cream of tartar"	Contains 93.9 per cent. of potassium bi-tartrate.
1083	6 Sept.	"Colouring matter"	Roseaniline (a coal-tar dye).
1084	6 Sept.	"Colouring matter"	Roseaniline (a coal-tar dye).
1085	6 Sept.	"Colouring matter"	Roseaniline (a coal-tar dye).
1107	9 Sept.	"Colouring matter"	Solution of roseaniline dye in water.
1111	9 Sept.	"Colouring matter"	Solution of roseaniline in acetic acid and water.
1113	9 Sept.	"Colouring matter"	Roseaniline (a coal-tar dye).
1309	5 Nov.	"Tea"	Adulterated with "lie tea"; should not pass into consumption.
1310	5 Nov.	"Tea"	No adulteration.
1323	8 Nov.	"Tea"	Adulterated with "lie tea"; should not pass into consumption.
1352	19 Nov.	"Tea"	No adulteration.
1079	6 Sept.	"Rum"	Genuine; reduced to 9 degrees underproof.
1086	6 Sept.	"Rum"	Contains 76 parts of rum, 25 degrees underproof, and 24 parts of water. It is 43 degrees underproof.
1104	9 Sept.	"Ginger Wine"	Not genuine; no ginger; flavoured with capsicum; coloured with burnt sugar and contains 35 grains of salicylic acid per gallon.
1109	9 Sept.	"Ginger Wine"	Contained 25 grains of salicylic acid per gallon.
1105	9 Sept.	"Lime Juice Cordial"	Genuine.
	14 May	"Water"	Organically pure; but owing to large quantity of chlorides and sulphates present is not suitable for drinking purposes.
1149	14 May	"Water"	The high free ammonia and chlorine and low albuminoid ammonia indicate sewage contamination and absence of organic matter of animal origin. Waters that cannot possibly contain sewage, sometimes show high free ammonia.
940	17 April	"Whisky"	Contains 63.7 per cent. of proof spirit. It is adulterated with 15 per cent. of added water.
1080	6 Sept.	"Whisky"	Genuine; reduced 24 degrees underproof.
985	17 April	"Beer"	Contains 3½ grains of salicylic acid to the gallon.
1149	14 May	"Milk" (2 samples)	No arsenic present in either sample.

BACTERIOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

THE FOLLOWING TABLES SHOW THE MONTHLY RETURN OF SPECIMENS RECEIVED FOR EXAMINATION AT THE BACTERIOLOGICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE YEAR 1901.

Nature of Specimens.	Number.	Positive.	Negative.	Nature of Specimens.	Number.	Positive.	Negative.
MARCH, 1901.				AUGUST, 1901.			
Tuberculosis ...	27	12	15	Tuberculosis ...	51	17	34
Typhoid ...	67	32	35	Typhoid ...	6	...	6
Water examination ...	1	...	...	Water examinations ...	12	...	...
Plague—Human ...	11	7	4	Plague—Human ...	3	1	2
Plague—Rats ...	49	...	49	Plague—Rats ...	137	8	129
Leprosy ...	1	...	1	Diphtheria ...	6	3	3
Pneumonia ...	1	...	1	Gonorrhoea ...	2	1	1
Animal parasites ...	7	...	...	Leprosy ...	2	...	2
Pathological tissues ...	9	...	...	Animal parasites ...	4	...	...
Total specimens received	173	...	...	Pathological tissues ...	10	...	...
APRIL, 1901.				Total specimens received	233	...	...
Tuberculosis ...	19	5	14	SEPTEMBER, 1901.			
Typhoid ...	49	23	26	Tuberculosis ...	38	13	25
Plague—Human ...	12	10	2	Typhoid ...	7	3	4
Plague—Rats ...	169	16	153	Water examinations ...	12	...	...
Diphtheria ...	2	2	...	Plague—Human ...	2	...	2
Animal parasites ...	3	...	...	Plague—Rats ...	245	1	244
Pathological tissues ...	8	...	...	Diphtheria ...	3	2	1
Water examinations ...	2	...	...	Gonorrhoea ...	3	...	3
Total specimens received	264	...	...	Leprosy ...	4	3	1
MAY, 1901.				Animal parasites ...	4	...	...
Tuberculosis ...	22	8	14	Pathological tissues ...	11	...	...
Typhoid ...	63	20	43	Total specimens received	329	...	...
Plague—Human ...	17	10	7	OCTOBER, 1901.			
Plague—Rats ...	164	23	141	Tuberculosis ...	35	11	24
Leprosy ...	1	1	...	Typhoid ...	33	13	20
Gonorrhoea ...	1	...	1	Plague—Human ...	4	1	3
Diphtheria ...	1	...	1	Plague—Rats ...	332	...	332
Animal parasites ...	6	...	...	Diphtheria ...	1	...	1
Pathological tissues ...	7	...	...	Gonorrhoea ...	3	1	2
Total specimens received	282	...	...	Leprosy ...	1	...	1
JUNE, 1901.				Animal parasites ...	6	...	...
Tuberculosis ...	18	5	13	Pathological tissues ...	8	...	...
Typhoid ...	15	1	14	Total specimens received	423	...	...
Plague—Human ...	6	3	3	NOVEMBER, 1901.			
Plague—Rats ...	122	33	89	Tuberculosis ...	50	18	32
Pneumonia ...	2	1	1	Typhoid ...	65	14	51
Gonorrhoea ...	4	2	2	Water examinations ...	5	...	...
Animal parasites ...	2	...	...	Plague—Human ...	2	...	2
Pathological tissues ...	5	...	...	Plague—Rats ...	273	1	272
Total specimens received	174	...	...	Diphtheria ...	1	1	...
JULY, 1901.				Gonorrhoea ...	3	...	3
Tuberculosis ...	32	6	26	Animal parasites ...	5	...	...
Typhoid ...	5	2	3	Pathological tissues ...	8	...	...
Plague—Human ...	5	3	2	Total specimens received	412	...	...
Plague—Rats ...	145	20	125	DECEMBER, 1901.			
Leprosy ...	5	2	3	Tuberculosis ...	34	13	21
Gonorrhoea ...	5	1	4	Typhoid ...	53	25	28
Pneumonia ...	1	1	...	Water examinations ...	1	...	...
Diphtheria ...	1	1	...	Plague—Human ...	3	1	2
Animal parasites ...	1	...	...	Plague—Rats ...	176	...	176
Pathological tissues ...	11	...	...	Diphtheria ...	2	...	2
Total specimens received	211	...	...	Gonorrhoea ...	4	...	4
				Animal parasites ...	5	...	...
				Pathological tissues ...	11	...	...
				Total specimens received	289	...	...

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES reported to the CENTRAL BOARD OF HEALTH for the TWELVE MONTHS ending 31st DECEMBER, 1901.

Infected Diseases.	Number.
Bubonic Plague ...	38
Smallpox ...	Nil.
Cholera ...	Nil.
Diphtheria ...	262
Membranous Croup ...	3
Erysipelas ...	57
Scarlet Fever ...	115
Typhus Fever ...	Nil.
Typhoid Fever ...	793
Relapsing Fever ...	2
Puerperal Fever ...	10
Continued Fever ...	4
	1,274
Deaths reported from Phthisis ...	22

**ABSTRACT OF REPORTS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31ST DECEMBER, 1901.
BRISBANE MUNICIPALITY.**

Municipal Council Chambers, Town Hall,
Brisbane, 6th January, 1902.

THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BRISBANE.

SIR,—I have the honour herewith to furnish you, pursuant to the requirements of section 31 of "*The Health Act of 1900*," with a certified copy of the Report of the City Analyst for the last three months, and the Report of the City Inspector covering same.

I have, &c.,
W. HENRY G. MARSHALL,
Town Clerk.

City Inspector's Office, Town Hall.
Brisbane, 3rd January, 1902.

THE TOWN CLERK, BRISBANE.

SIR,—Since the appointment of the City Analyst on the 14th October, 1901, I have tested milk sold by 48 milk vendors, 4 of these I submitted to the Analyst. Two of these were convicted and fined at Brisbane Police Court for having added water to the extent of 7 per cent. and 15 per cent. Two others were brought up before the South Brisbane Police Court for having 11 per cent. and 17 per cent. of added water. The first of these was dismissed (*see my report on same, dated 14th December, 1901*); the last I withdrew on our expenses being paid.

I have also had 9 samples of jams and marmalades tested; 6 of these were pure, and 3 adulterated, the adulteration, however, being of such a nature and so slight that I was advised not to proceed until the Health Officer fixes standards, so that convictions may be assured. It is my intention to leave jams and milk alone until such standards are gazetted.

I have, &c.,
HENRY BURTON,
City Inspector.

31st December, 1901.

THE MUNICIPALITY OF BRISBANE.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to report upon my work as Analyst from the 14th of October to the end of the year 1901. I have analysed the following, with the appended results:—

	£	s.	d.
24 October—Milk—Boz, 7.1 per cent. added water	0	10	6
24 October—Milk—Lac, 14.2 per cent. added water	0	10	6
1 November—Jam—Sol, pure	1	1	0
1 November—Jam—Luna, pure	1	1	0
1 November—Marmalade—Pan, contains salicylic acid	1	1	0
1 November—Jam—Leo, pure	1	1	0
1 November—Jam—Libra, pure	1	1	0
5 November—Jam—Virgo, pure	1	1	0
20 November—Milk—Lat, 10 per cent. added water	0	10	6
27 November—Marmalade—Sol, pure	1	1	0
27 November—Jam—Leo, coloured with coal-tar colour	1	1	0
27 November—Jam—Hal, contains salicylic acid	1	1	0
28 November—Milk—Uz, 17.5 per cent. added water	0	10	6

There is therefore a total:—Milk, 4 samples; all adulterated. Jams and marmalades, 9 samples; 6 pure, 3 adulterated.

I have, &c.,
ARTHUR B. CHATER, F.C.S.

SOUTH BRISBANE MUNICIPALITY.

South Brisbane, 14th January, 1902.

THE COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC HEALTH, BRISBANE.

SIR,—I have the honour to hand you herewith copy of Annual Report by the Council's General Inspector for the year ending 31st December, 1901.

I have, &c.,
JOHN W. HILL,
Town Clerk.

South Brisbane, 8th January, 1902.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, SOUTH BRISBANE.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit hereunder Report upon the work carried out in connection with my department during the past year, 1901.

No. of premises inspected	26,650
No. of written instructions issued and carried out, made up as follows	1,187
No. private drains connected to sewers	408
No. defective drains repaired and trapped	366
No. closets repaired	50
No. new closets erected	14
No. yards cleaned of weeds	290
No. stone crossings constructed	40
No. nuisances abated, and yards cleaned up	80
No. wells filled up	9
No. smoke nuisances abated	8
No. gutter bridges repaired	12

In the matter of inspections, particular attention was given to bakeries, butchers' shops, dairies, hotels, and other business premises.

In the matter of abatement of nuisances, it was not considered necessary in the majority of cases to give written notices, verbal instructions having been generally acted upon.

No. of permits to open streets issued	362
No. of permits to blast	11
No. of awning permits	3
No. of hoarding permits	1

Clearing and burning off weeds on vacant lands within Wards Nos. 1, 2, and 4 has been carried out:—

Number of summonses issued for breaches of By-laws	9
Number of summonses issued for the recovery of drainage accounts	4
Number of summonses issued for recovery of rates	70
Number of scales and weights adjusted, stamped	41
Number of weighing machines adjusted, stamped	13
Number of steelyards adjusted, stamped	4
Number of measures adjusted, stamped	94
Number of weights adjusted, stamped	527

Periodical visits have been made to the various bakehouses within the district, and weight of bread tested, with satisfactory results.

All valuation and rate notices delivered.

Dogs registered	970
Number destroyed	92
Number released	21
Goats registered	23
Number destroyed	3
Cattle and horses impounded	530

Amount collected on account of new sewers and private branch connections	£391 1 9
Other drains	107 3 5

The action of the Council in having new sewers constructed under provisions contained in Clause 41 of "The Health Act of 1900" has been the means of enabling 237 householders to drain their premises.

Periodical inspections have been made of the plant and, etc., in connection with the sanitary contract, the work of which has been carried out fairly satisfactory. The same may be said of the new contract entered into with Mr. Henry Carr from 1st November last; one case of neglect only has arisen, for which a fine was enforced.

The number of premises served by the new contractor is 5,341.

Cases of infectious diseases which have occurred during the year:—

Typhoid fever	47
Diphtheria	15
Scarlet fever	4
Sapraemia	1
Erysipelas	1
Phthisis	3
Enteric fever	1
Bubonic plague	1
Total	73

CHAS. W. COPELAND,
General Inspector.

MUNICIPALITIES.

ALLORA.

There has been a house-to-house inspection of yards and cesspits once in three months, and when necessary orders have been given for alterations requisite.

Since 4th May, when the first recorded case was reported, the resident medical man, Dr. F. Pain, has reported 5 cases of enteric fever, 2 of typhoid fever, and 2 of diphtheria within the boundary of this Municipality, all patients being under 19 years of age; these cases have been scattered over the whole area, and the doctor has failed to report anything of importance needing alteration.

BLACKALL.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

In the present as in the past the old pit system is in vogue, except in the gaol and some other of the Government buildings, which use the pail system.

The closets are regularly inspected by myself in company with the Inspector of Nuisances, and any irregularity is remedied as soon as possible.

Disinfectants have been supplied free by the Blackall Council and Kargoolnah Board in case of infectious diseases.

BOWEN.

The only information I could give you would be the amount annually donated by my Local Authority to the expenses of carrying out the duties of the Board of Health locally, which information is, of course, supplied in the returns to your Central Board of the transactions of the Local Board.

BUNDABERG.

I may mention that we strike a health rate every year, and out of the moneys collected for such rate the following disbursements are made:—Part of the salary of the Nuisance Inspector, part of the office salaries, wages for street cleaners, and any precepts that may be issued by the Joint Board for the Prevention of Epidemic Diseases. The removal of closet pans and household refuse is paid for out of a rate called the cleansing rate; the latter is collected on all occupied properties at the rate of £1 per closet pan per annum.

During the year steps have been taken to improve the sanitary conditions of premises occupied by aliens, with good results. A set of model by-laws, prepared under section 167, were adopted by the Council, and are now in force within the Municipality.

CHARLEVILLE.

I herewith beg to advise that the sum of £107 12s. 1d. was expended by this Council during the year 1901 in instituting a dry-earth closet system.

DALRYMPLE D. B. AND CHARTERS TOWERS M.

* * * You are doubtless aware that most matters in connection with the public health are controlled by a Joint Health Committee, composed of six members, three each being appointed by the Charters Towers Municipal Council and this Board.

REPORT FROM THE INSPECTOR OF THE DALRYMPLE DIVISIONAL BOARD.

Charters Towers, 27th February, 1902.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT HEALTH COMMITTEE.

SIR,—In compliance with the circular from the Commissioner of Public Health, I now beg to hand you summary of the work undertaken by me during the last twelve months.

CLEANSING OF YARDS.—With the object of enforcing the cleansing of yards and the suppression of nuisances generally, I periodically make a house-to-house inspection, and in my daily rounds keep a general supervision of the district visited. There is also a notice inserted in the daily papers each year, calling upon all householders to have their premises cleaned up and all rubbish removed by a stated day.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.—The pit system is at present in force within the No. 1 Subdivision, and the inspection of these pits I carry out at my periodical inspection of the yards.

DEAD ANIMALS.—Owing to the very large area of the No. 1 Subdivision, there is a very great amount of work entailed in carrying out the removal of dead animals. In all cases where ownership is proved the cost of removal is charged, otherwise the expense is defrayed by the Board.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE HEALTH ACT.—I have obtained the following convictions under the Health Act:—

Light-weight bread	...	...	...	...	...	...	Two convictions
Milk adulteration	...	...	...	...	...	...	Four ..

In all cases where nuisances or breaches of the By-laws are reported I visit the spot as early as practicable, and make the necessary inquiries. I have had no occasion to report any outbreak of an epidemic nature. A report is submitted by me at each monthly meeting of the Dalrymple Divisional Board.

I have, &c.,

W. G. JOLLY,

Inspector to the Dalrymple Divisional Board.

CLERMONT.

FROM THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

* * * The health of this town has been very good, and the number of cases of infectious disease notified has been small. This is in large measure due to the energetic measures of the Council in thoroughly cleansing and keeping in good order all drains and gutters.

COOKTOWN.

The removal and disposal of nightsoil is effected by licensed nightmen, who charge the public directly under a scale prescribed by Council By-law; regular supervision of conveniences being exercised by the nuisance inspector. The Medical Health Officer and Inspector of Nuisances made a joint house-to-house inspection on the 23rd, and reported to Council on the 30th ultimo in detail, and referred to the satisfactory condition of sanitary matters and general healthy state of the town.

CROYDON.

With the exception of an allowance by way of salary voted by this authority to Dr. Trenow, the medical health officer—viz., £15 15s.—no other disbursements were made or works executed, nor were any sums received by this Council during the year 1901 in connection with the Act.

DALBY.

No Return.

GLADSTONE.

FROM THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

* * * Of the total cases of infectious disease, 25 were of typhoid and 2 of erysipelas. It is noteworthy that no case of diphtheria, scarlet fever, puerperal septicæmia, or phthisis has been reported.

Of the 25 cases of typhoid fever, at least 14 cannot be ascribed to the normal sanitary state of your Board's district. An outbreak at Boyne River was due to the first case reported from there—a recent arrival from another town. All the cases were at the one residence, and your inspector reported favourably upon it and its surroundings.

Another outbreak amongst a body of men encamped upon different town reserves was, as anticipated, brought to an end by the dispersal of these men as they gained employment along the railway line under construction. I think it worthy of note that no case of infectious disease has been reported from this work.

GOONDIWINDI.

I beg to state that no diseases were reported for the year 1901, and no disbursements were made, and no sums received for the purposes of the Act.

GYMPIE.

I have the honour to forward herewith the Annual Report of the Gympie Municipal Council of work done and expenses incurred in connection with the provisions of "The Health Act of 1900" for the year 1901.

In addition to the general supervision of the sanitation of the Municipality, the sum of £39 6s. 6d. was spent in disinfectants, which are supplied free to all ratepayers; and £143 4s. 9d. was spent in improving the main sewer to facilitate the speedy discharge of drainage, &c., and £45 2s. 6d. in cremation of animals.

The sum of £514 14s. has been received by health rates, and £14 13s. 9d. for the emptying of rubbish boxes, leaving a balance of £220 4s. as shown by the statement of receipts and expenditure attached.

The Health Officer's report is herewith enclosed.

HUGHENDEN.

FROM THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

During the year we have been remarkably free from all epidemic diseases, and in my opinion the great immunity from such has been due to the excessive dryness of the soil and atmosphere, causing the death of all germs, which, by a merciful dispensation of Providence, has done more to prevent an outbreak of sickness than the futile attempts to observe the simplest laws of sanitation on the part of the residents.

IPSWICH.

Regarding the receipts and disbursements from the health rate, I may say nothing in the nature of works has been done. No rate was struck, the arrears of rates from previous rates being sufficient to cover the inspector's salary and removal of nuisances. The total receipts from the rates amounted to £78 4s. 11d., and the expenditure £142 6s. 2d., and there is still a credit balance of £31 5s. 10d. to go towards this year's expenses. During the year the inspector twice made a general inspection of all premises within the municipality, and a weekly inspection of all central and business premises, and of the Sanitary Depot to see that the nightsoil was properly buried. Fifty notices were served for repairs to drains, 20 for draining of premises, and 26 for removal of nuisances, while 68 premises where infectious diseases had been notified were also inspected.

FROM THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

Suggestions.

A new sanitary scheme is urgently needed along with means of disposing of household refuse. At present a considerable number of householders dispose of their own nightsoil in different ways, which must in several cases be defective and dangerous.

Water Supply.—In some low-lying localities the water supply is seldom clear, and I deem it advisable in such localities to periodically open the undermains, and get the pipes scoured out, while in the case of householders having tanks some arrangement whereby the first flow of rain from the roofs should be turned off, and only after the roofs and gutters are washed clear of dust, &c., should the rain-water be permitted to flow into the tanks. Closed drains and culverts should be flushed from the nearest water-mains wherever the former exist, in order to prevent rubbish from the street accumulating in them. This matter requires more attention on account of the protracted period of dry weather.

Milk Supply.—A report containing the results of examination of the town milk supply was recently forwarded, and I would suggest frequent tests should be made, to keep the quality up to a uniform standard.

MACKAY.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

During the year the sickness from infectious and contagious diseases was small, being 14 cases from the town and 12 from the country. There has been nothing in the nature of an epidemic for the twelve months.

Some 13 chains of the sewerage works were effected at a considerable cost, and existing drains repaired. A considerable amount of phosphorous paste and arsenic was distributed.

MARYBOROUGH.

In accordance with the request contained in your circular letter, of the 20th December last, for a complete report as provided under section 16 of "The Health Act of 1900," of all works executed, sums received and disbursed during the current year, I have the honour to hand you a full statement as required, and which I trust is made out in agreement with your wishes.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

On looking over the above list of causes of death, one immediately is struck with the increased number of deaths due to diseases of the respiratory system. In all 33 persons died from either bronchitis, pneumonia, or phthisis, equal to a quarter of the whole number of deaths during the year.

It is a great pity that more expedition is not made in regard to the inspection of dairies. At present any sort of a person can keep any sort of a cow in any sort of surroundings. I would strongly suggest that your council urge with all their power that a dairy inspector be at once appointed for this district.

At last we are able to know the number of cases of infectious diseases occurring within the town, and at the same time locate those parts of the town where they are most rife. It will be observed that 35 cases of typhoid fever, with three deaths, occurred during the year. This is not a great number when we take into account the size and flatness of the town.

I trust that work will soon be started on the extra furnace (with improvements suggested by Dr. Ham) at the incinerator. It would be a great pity, if through any accident, we had to revert to the old method of burning.

MOUNT MORGAN.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

The chief serious disease affecting this municipality is *Typhoid fever*. This has become more prevalent of late years, but is not increasing at such a rate since the introduction of the "pan system." Still, however, there is a very serious number of cases annually, and it must be borne in mind that typhoid is particularly a preventable disease. The number of cases cannot be compared with former years, when notification was less carefully attended to.

The old cesspits with their fourteen or fifteen years' accumulation still exist, although in most cases the excreta is covered over with soil since the pan system has been in use.

Another likely source of typhoid in this town is the pollution of the surface wells, which are all quite close to the watercourses from underground drainage from the cesspits. This, of course, is likely to be a large factor during dry weather when the tanks are empty, and when the people are glad to get any liquid resembling water. It is advisable that notices should be put at the public wells, advising people to boil this water before using it for any purpose whatever, as the clearness of this well-water is apt to mislead them into thinking it pure.

NORMANTON.

I have to state there have not been any sums received or disbursed with the exception of the Medical Health Officer's salary, which is fixed at £10 per annum.

ROCKHAMPTON.

Referring to your circular of the 20th ultimo, on the subject of the Annual Report of Local Authorities, I have the honour, by direction, to inform you that the circular was read at the meeting of the Council, held yesterday, and I was directed, as the subject of the circular is under the control of a Joint Board (constituted by an Order in Council), to forward your circular to that authority.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

I have the honour to forward the Annual Medical Report of the above Board (complying with "*The Health Act of 1900*"), for the year ending 31st December, 1901—

During the year the main objects of the Board have been to keep the various local authorities vigorously alive to anything likely to prove a menace to the public health, and to suggest and supervise means for the successful elimination of infectious diseases.

Inspection of all the premises on which cases of plague occurred in the previous year have been carefully made, and many improvements tending to prevent further outbreak were carried out. Several buildings condemned as unfit for habitation, or as likely to harbour rats, were removed by the owners at the Board's request. Boarding-houses were inspected, and the attention of the Rockhampton Municipal Council was drawn to the filthy condition of some, and the overcrowded condition of others, especially in the Chinese quarter of the town itself, and in this way the provisions of "*The Health Act of 1900*," bearing on the supervision of such places, have been enforced.

The wharves have been inspected, and rat-poison has been laid in their vicinity, with the result that the number of rodents has decreased. Rats have been collected from the town, and have been paid for by the Board, and destroyed by fire. There has been no systematic bacteriological examination of these rats. There has been no recrudescence of plague in the town.

ROMA.

In compliance with your circular dated 20th ultimo, I have the honour to state that no money has been received nor paid by my Council for works for the purposes of the Act during the year.

SANDGATE.

With reference to your circular dated 20th December last, which has been unintentionally overlooked, I have the honour to advise you that no works were executed last year by my Council for the purposes of "*The Health Act of 1900*."

The Council received £138 18s. 9d. from health rates (levied chiefly for the purpose of paying precepts issued by the Metropolitan Joint Epidemic Board), and paid precepts amounting to £55 8s. 10d. and remuneration to the Health Officer for the preceeding year amounting to £5 15s. 6d.

TOOWOOMBA.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

I beg to report the health of the town and district fairly good. Two hundred and thirty-three deaths have occurred during the year 1901. I have the honour to state that the conditions influencing public health during the year have been chiefly due to the peculiar and erratic nature of our climate. The usual diseases due to seasonal influence have manifested themselves, and on looking through the death record for the past year the diseases claiming the greatest mortality are fairly well disputed by the digestive and circulatory systems and constitutional diseases.

During the year I am glad to be in a position to inform you that we have been remarkably free from serious epidemics.

On no question of social economy is the general public more ignorant than on that of the wholesomeness, or otherwise, of the food that they eat, and on that ground alone it becomes incumbent on sanitary authorities to protect them from the dangers attendant on the same. Amongst the poorer classes the cravings of hunger are not likely to exercise great discrimination in the purchase of the necessaries of life. Nor can they afford to pay an expert to teach them what to choose, or what to avoid; they, therefore, buy what, to their uneducated senses, is most likely to satisfy the predominant feature known as hunger.

The only epidemics for the past year have been measles and whooping cough, and whilst such a good health record is a subject for congratulation your Council must not overlook the fact that serious epidemic infectious disease may at any time develop and find us quite unprepared for it, as nothing has been done for making provision for isolation and disinfection.

The following requirements are necessary:—

Hospital for infectious diseases.

Dairy inspector.

Public abattoir.

Filling-in all cesspits and replacing them with earth system.

As the water supply comes from a well, an annual analysis would be desirable.

TOWNSVILLE.

I do myself the honour, by direction of the Mayor, to enclose herewith a copy of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health of this Municipality:—

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

I regret that ill-health has compelled me to delay forwarding you this Report till this late date.

I have much pleasure in reporting that during the past year the general health of the municipality has been very good. With the exception of a slight epidemic of influenza in June and July, no epidemic disease has made its appearance.

During the months of October, November, and December, there were many cases of typhoid fever, but the disease never became epidemic, notwithstanding the exceptionally dry weather and the doubtful quality of the water supplied by the Ross River well.

I think that the municipality can fairly congratulate itself on the very healthy year just passed through, although I cannot specially mention any particular action of your Council during the year which can be said to have specially contributed to such healthy conditions.

In saying that I should not forget to mention that your Council decided to remove all rubbish at least once a week from dwellings, and for such purpose I understand the necessary plant was obtained. For some reason this decision has not been carried out, and this I think is greatly to be deplored.

These rubbish heaps, which are so common to the eye in Towasville, become festering feeding grounds for rats and every kind of vermin, and undoubtedly create a great danger to the public health. We know perfectly well by experience that the general public in any community cares very little for sanitary obligations, especially when they cost money.

Much of course requires to be done in the municipality to improve the drainage, but owing to want of money this question unfortunately has to be shelved from year to year. However, during the past year everything has been done that could be done to patch up where necessary, and where it could legally be accomplished.

The water supply was good till the year was nearly over, and then it became necessary to re-tap an old source. This water, I regret to say, is of a very doubtful quality, but does not appear to cause any serious disease. I hope that this doubtful supply will soon be cut off, and water obtained from some other source if possible.

WARWICK.

Your circular letter has by some means become mislaid, and I am not quite sure what the information is that you require. Unfortunately, our town clerk, Mr. F. B. Woods, is seriously ill, and I am not able to see him on any matter of business. Could you send me a copy of the letter referred to, and I will immediately attend to same.

I am sorry that any delay has occurred in this matter, as our Council are particularly anxious that all matters pertaining to the health of the town should be strictly attended to, and keep an inspector continually at work making house-to-house inspection.

Trusting the delay will not lead to serious inconvenience.

I have, &c.,

JOHN SPREADBOROUGH,
per Town Clerk.

* * * There have been no works executed or moneys received that would come under these headings in our town.

During the past year we have kept an inspector doing house-to-house inspections daily, whose duty it was to report any breaches of our By-laws relating to health, or any breaches of the Health Act, to me as Municipal Inspector—also to furnish the Medical Officer of Health with a weekly report of the state of the town—and bring up a monthly report to the Council. Any ratepayer or occupier of premises who refuses or neglects to comply with the order of the inspector is reported to me, and I take action on the order of the Worshipful the Mayor and summons the defaulter before the local bench. We only had one case during the past year, when the bench inflicted a substantial fine amounting, with costs, to £13. The charge was for having premises in an unsanitary condition.

SHIRE COUNCILS.

COORPAROO.

* * * As far as the Medical Officer of Health is concerned, I am directed to inform you that this Council is under the impression that Dr. Halford was appointed Medical Officer of Health to all the Local Authorities constituting the Joint Epidemic Board.

DRAYTON.

* * * There have not been any works executed, sums received, or disbursements made, &c., by my Council during the year 1901.

ITHACA.

I have the honour, by direction, to report that during the year 1901 a rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the £ was struck for health purposes, and the sum of £1,025 16s. 7d. was collected thereon.

TOOWONG.

* * * The sanitary system of incineration has been successfully carried on for nearly ten years. Fifty-seven thousand five hundred and thirty-five closet pans have been collected during the past year, and their contents put through the furnace.

Under general expenditure (Local Government Act of 1878) about 24 chains of concreted watertable have been laid during the past year, making a total length of nearly five miles; the whole length is flushed with water and swept clean at least once a week.

House-to-house inspections are frequently made.

DIVISIONAL BOARDS.

ADAVALE.

* * * No money received or disbursed for the purposes of the 16th section of "The Health Act of 1900" during 1901.

ANTIGUA.

* * * I have the honour to inform you that no sums of money were expended by this Board in that connection, there not being any necessity for it, neither was any appointment of a Health Officer made.

ARAMAC.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

* * * The sanitary state of the township of Aramac for 1901 may be considered to have been satisfactory, so much so that there have been reported only three matters during the past twelve months:—

- (1) One case of notifiable disease was reported.
- (2) A drain in Burt street was reported as offensive and at once attended to.
- (3) A collection of semi-stagnant water off McWhannell street was reported as unsightly and unpleasant. This remains still in much the same condition.

* * * In addition to the above, it may be mentioned that it would be well if the town rubbish tip could be shifted further away from the inhabited parts of the town, as at present it is altogether too close.

AYR.

Re the matter of sanitation in this town, I may say that since the inception of the pan system there is no doubt about the effect it has had on keeping down infection.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

At Pioneer Plantation Messrs. Drysdale Bros. have erected a special water supply, and have issued instructions to all their employees to use boiled water. There have been no cases of typhoid at this plantation this year.

BALMORAL.

I have the honour to inform you that my Board has no such report to make, as no works have been executed.

BANANA.

I have the honour to inform you that no works have been executed, sums received, or disbursements made under the Act within the Division during the year 1901.

BARCADDINE.

In response to your circular letter of the 27th March, I have the honour, by direction, to inform you that there is nothing to report regarding works executed, sums received, disbursements made, &c., for the purposes of the Health Act, beyond the fact of the Board paying the Health Officer a salary of £20 per annum.

BARCO.

* * * The Inspector of Nuisances notified one licensed publican in the town of Isisford to abate a nuisance in the yard attached to the premises, caused by the foul state of the water-closets and the accumulation of bad fat or tallow.

BAROLIN.

The contractor for sanitary services within the proclaimed area of this Division has carried out his work quite satisfactory.

BAUHINIA.

No health rate has been struck, moneys received, or any work executed.

BEENLEIGH.

I have the honour to report as follows:—

- 1st. The works executed—Cleansing, sluicing, and disinfecting water-tables and drains, and inspecting premises.
- 2nd. Sums received, *nil*; no special health rate made in the Division; all payments made out of the general funds of the Division.
- 3rd. Disbursements made—Cleansing, sluicing, disinfecting water-tables and drains, £17 8s. 6d.; wages, £12; total, £29 8s. 6d.

BELMONT.

And, in accordance with your request, I am further directed to report to you that no special work has been done nor has any amount been received by this Board for health purposes, and the only direct expenditure of this Board on account of the public health for that term has been the sum of £24 13s. 9d. paid to the Metropolitan Joint Board for the Prevention of Epidemic Diseases, none of which has been expended by that Board in or on account of this Division; the said sum was paid by this Board out of general rates.

BELYANDO.

* * * No works under "The Health Act of 1900" have been undertaken.

BOOROODABIN.

I have the honour to forward herewith a list of sums expended by the Board, during the year 1901, under the provisions of "The Health Act of 1900."

The item, construction of private drains, £60 11s. 2d., refers to drains constructed by the Board under the provisions of section 50 of the Act, and has been or will be repaid by the owners of the properties benefited.

Drainage cleansing, £239 2s. 9d., appears heavy, but this is caused principally by the cleansing of Stratton drain, upon which work men have to be constantly employed.

During the year the Board has initiated a new sanitary service, substituting the duplicate pan system for the old dump cart service, a change which has been much appreciated in the Division.

BURRUM.

In reply, I am directed to inform you that no works have been executed, no sums have been received, no disbursements made for the purposes of the Act during the year 1901.

I am also instructed to state that the Board has no Medical Officer of Health, but that the Clerk acts as Sanitary Inspector for the Division.

CAIRNS.

In reply to your circular of the 27th ultimo, I have the honour, by direction, to inform you that the Local Authorities in this district are jointly represented in a Health Board managed from the Municipal Council's office. My Board has therefore no report to furnish in the matter.

CABOOLTURE.

Two complaints *re* stagnant water were received during the year under review. In both cases the hollows were first drained dry, and then filled up to prevent any recurrence of the nuisance, the cost being about £5.

Complaint was also made concerning a nuisance caused by pigs running at large in a township.

CARPENTARIA.

* * * This Division has no centre of population, and never has had any fevers or epidemics of any kind.

CLEVELAND.

* * * There have been no cases of an epidemic nature during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1901, and no reports or complaints of such cases have been received at this office.

CROYDON.

You will please note that during the previous year only 7 cases of infectious diseases occurred, which were duly notified to you.

The removal of nightsoil at Golden Gate (the only township of importance) is under the supervision of the working overseer, who is also sanitary inspector.

The whole Division is in a very healthy and cleanly state.

DAINTREE.

* * * This Board has not appointed a health officer, as all sickness and diseases are dealt with in Cooktown by the only medical practitioner resident in the district—viz., Dr. Kortüm—whose report you will receive from the Municipal Council of Cooktown, who have appointed him Health Officer.

EINASLEIGH.

There were only 2 cases of scarlet fever of a mild character the last year.

GOOLMAN.

I may inform you that there have been 8 cases of typhoid fever and 2 cases of erysipelas reported to the Board by the Medical Officer of Health, and which certificates I forwarded on to your department on various dates between May 27th, 1901, and April, 1902.

I have also to state that there have been no sums of money received on this account.

HAMILTON.

Health Report for the year 1901.

Vide Statement of Receipts and Expenditure.

INDOOROOPIILLY.

My Board presume that, as we contribute to the Metropolitan Joint Board, their Medical Officer will include this Division in his report to you.

KARGOOLNAH.

I have the honour to report that the only disbursement during the present year for the purposes of carrying out "The Health Act of 1900" is the Health Officer's salary, amounting to £25.

LONGREACH.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

* * * The general sanitary condition of the town is good. A few nuisances have been abated under the action of the Inspector of Nuisances.

SHERWOOD.

No works executed and no sums received for health purposes in this Division during the past year; the disbursements being £36 2s. 8d., precepts paid to the Epidemic Joint Board.

SOUTHPORT.

* * * No works have been executed or sums received or disbursed on account of the Health Act for the year ending 31st December, 1901.

No medical officer has been appointed to this Board, as the only medical practitioner in the district is a member of this Board.

TABRAGALBA.

FROM MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT.

There are no conditions specially threatening to health in the district.

TARINGA.

* * * Dr. Halford has been requested to furnish the report required from the Medical Officer of Health.

TINGALPA.

* * * Instant measures have been taken to remove and burn all dead animals anywhere near a road or dwelling, and to destroy and burn all diseased animals.

TOOMBUL.

The Medical Officer of Health has been requested to furnish you with his Annual Report, comprising a summary of the action taken and an account of the sanitary state of the district.

TORRES.

The health of the district during the year has been very good.

ULA ULA.

Inspections of cesspits have been made periodically, and a number of new premises have been ordered to be erected with new cesspits, the old ones being filled with approved earth.

Three buildings condemned as unfit for human habitation have been demolished by the owners, the latter having been served with notices in accordance with Schedule II., Form A.

WOONGARRA.

In reply, I beg to advise that there is no health rate in this Division, nor is there a Health Officer appointed by this Board. There is a Joint Local Authority for the Prevention of Epidemic Diseases; all cases are reported to that Board, who take the necessary action.

YEERONGPILLY.

No works executed, no moneys received, and the disbursements for the past year amount to £56 7s. 3d; being the Board's quota of precepts issued by the Metropolitan Joint Board for the Prevention of Epidemic Diseases to the component Local Authorities constituting the said Joint Board.

Price 8d.]

By Authority: GEORGE ARTHUR VAUGHAN, Government Printer, William street, Brisbane.