

Riverton, and Winton in the southern portion; Balclutha, Clinton, Crookston, Heriot, Kelso, Middlemarch, Mosgiel, Owaka, Sutton, Tapanui, Waipahi, Waitahuna, and Waitahuna Gully in the centre; Arrowtown, Glenorchy, Kinloch, Palmerston, Queenstown, and Waikouaiti in the northern part. Besides these, I visited, on behalf of my colleague the District Officer for Canterbury, the fishing village of Moeraki. Altogether I or my Inspectors have visited some seventy-six places in the district, several of them on more than one occasion—viz., Arrowtown, Balfour, Balclutha, Bluff, Brighton, Broad Bay, Clinton, Colac, Crookston, Edendale, Fortrose, Gap Road, Glenorchy, Gore, Grassmere, Green Island, Heriot, Hyde, Hindon, Invercargill, Kaitangata, Kelso, Kinloch, Lawrence, Lumsden, Makarewa, Mataura, Moeraki, Menzies' Ferry, Middlemarch, Milton, Mount Cargill, Myross Bush, Nightcaps, North-east Harbour, Opiro, Orepuki, Otakaia, Otautau, Otara, Otatara, Outram, Owaka, Palmerston South, Pine Hill, Port Chalmers, Purakanui, Portobello, Queenstown, Riversdale, Riverton, Round Hill, Sandymount, Stirling, South Hillend, Sutton, Taieri Beach, Tapanui, Tisbury, Tomahawk, Waikouaiti, Waipahi, Wendonside, West Plains, Waitahuna, Waitahuna Gully, Waikiwi, Wallacetown, Waitati, Winton, Whitechapel Flat, Woodend, Woodlands, Wyndham. The city and suburbs of Dunedin have also received a good deal of attention.

A general synopsis of the work which has come under the notice of this district may be of interest as the introduction to a more minute description of the duties we have performed: Defects in house and other drains, 258; drainage-areas examined, 8; privies found defective, 90; refuse-tips looked after, 25; nightsoil, complaints regarding non-removal, &c., 12; piggeries ordered to be cleaned, &c., 34; dirty stables ordered to be cleaned, &c., 31; fowl-runs ordered to be cleaned, &c., 12; complaint of dogs kept in a house causing a nuisance, 1; dilapidated or insanitary houses examined, &c., 78; examination of men's quarters on steamers (by request), 14; disinfection of premises personally looked to, 42; nuisance from exposure of decaying offal looked to, 23; gutter-scrappings used to repair streets interdicted, 1; nuisances of various kinds, 168; shops, factories, &c., inspected for various reasons, 150; hotels examined, 38; public halls found requiring improvements, &c., 2; freezing-works examined, &c., 5; restaurants examined, &c., 6; boiling-down and manure works examined, &c., 7; abattoirs and slaughter-yards examined, 12; diseased meat, prosecutions for keeping or selling, 2; fish-traffic wagons examined, 2; fish and fruit sales attended, 35; examination and disinfection of imported articles, &c., 5; taking samples of liquor from hotels for analysis, 33; taking samples of jams for analysis, 6; schools examined, principally for infectious cases, 57; reported cases of scarlet fever visited, 264; reported cases of diphtheria visited, 29; reported cases of measles visited, 13; reported cases of typhoid fever visited, 15; examination of a suspected leper, 1; examination of returned troopers, 300; examination of men from Public Works office, 5; examination of men from Post-office, 4; examination of a passenger *ex* "Papanui" for phthisis, 1; examination of sputa, 2; vaccination of "Orient" troopers, 302; visits to "Orient" troopers at Tahuna Park camp, 5; visits to "Orient" troopers at Quarantine Island, 5; visits to Quarantine Island, for various reasons, 8; visits to Immigration Barracks (emergency hospital), 3.

We sent out the following circulars:—

To medical men: *Re* inculcating precautions in infectious disease; with printed circular. *Re* registered deaths from cancerous diseases; asking information.

To local authorities: *Re* danger of allowing new buildings to be placed on sites where the ground-area is too small; from Municipal Corporations Act. *Re* attending to disinfection of houses, &c., after infectious disease. *Re* furnishing statistical information about boroughs, townships, &c.

To the Secretary of the Education Board: *Re* periodic cleansing of slates, &c., used in schools, and the danger of allowing the miscellaneous use of pens, pencils, &c., in schools; with a request that it be sent to all schoolmasters. *Re* not permitting children to resume school attendance after absence, without a certificate that the cause was not infectious disease either to themselves or in the household.

To schoolmasters: *Re* systematic examination of children, to insure that they may not be suffering from infectious disease in any stage.

I made the following examination of places for various purposes: A piece of ground under offer to the City Council, at Abbotsford, as a site for a new cemetery; the property known as "The Camp," on the Peninsula, offered as an old men's home, or sanatorium, to Government; Mr. Scott's farm, at Sutton, Upper Taieri, offered to Government as a site for a sanatorium for consumptives; Mr. Ewing's farm, Halfway Bush, offered to Government as a site for a sanatorium for consumptives; a house used by Miss Stronach as a private hospital for consumptives, near Moeraki (by request of the District Health Officer, Canterbury); Tahuna Park, Musselburgh, as an isolation ground for troopers *ex* "Orient" under quarantine for small-pox; the Immigration Barracks, Caversham, as a temporary hospital for infectious disease; the septic-tank installation at the Benevolent Institution, Dunedin (at the request of the Engineer of the Drainage and Sewerage Board); the place where oysters are stored at the Bluff.

I instituted prosecutions against (obtaining convictions): — Georgeson, for having rotten fish and meat in his freezing-chamber; — Higginson, for exposing for sale parts of a cow which had died after injuries, and which was in an unhealthy condition and unfit for food; — Newmark, for not reporting himself while under quarantine; — Stanton, for going at large while suffering from infectious disease.

The proposed by-laws of the Dunedin Drainage and Sewerage Board were submitted to me for approval; and I met the Works Committee, and went over the by-laws, considering various points which I considered to require alteration.