

There is a desire, too, that some scheme of measurements, &c., should be furnished of a uniform kind for their common use, so that observations may be made and recorded according to a fixed method throughout the Dominion.

The above report, though it shows nothing sensational, reveals steady and diligent work by my Inspectors, to all of whom, I think, praise is due for intelligence and diligence and for the interest they have shown in the performance of their sometimes delicate duties.

And I have also to record that local authorities are showing greater and increasing appreciation of their functions and of the assistance our Department is able to give them in carrying out these functions. I may mention, too, that with other Departments of the public service our relations have always been of the most harmonious nature mutually working together for the public benefit.

I must not omit to mention the tact displayed by my Clerk, Mr. Birch, in meeting people coming to the office with complaints or seeking for information. He takes a real and lively interest in the details of his work, and smooths many an angry complainant who imagines he is being unduly pressed upon by the sanitary authorities.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS OF PLACES MADE THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT.

The following towns, villages, &c., were visited and inspected:—

By Dr. Ogston: Arrowtown, Balclutha, Bannockburn, Bluff, Catlin's, Cromwell, Dunkeld, Dipton, Gibbston, Gore, Invercargill, Josephville, Kawarau, Kew, Lawrence, Lumsden, Middlemarch, Nightcaps, Nuggets, Owaka, Palmerston South, Port Molyneux, Pounawea, Queenstown, Riverton, Rock and Pillar, Roxburgh, Rough Ridge, Sutton, St. Bathans, Tapanui, Winton, Whare Flat, Waikaka, Waikaka Valley, and parts of Flagstaff district—or 36 places in all. And to these places 51 visits were paid.

By Inspector Cameron: Aparima, Balfour, Bluff, Clifton, Colac, Dipton, Drummond's Ferry, Edendale, Fortrose, Gore, Gummie's Bush, Kew, Josephville, Lorne, Lumsden, Makarewa, Matakura, Menzie's Ferry, Niagara, Nightcaps, Ocean Beach, Orepuki, Otautau, Papatotara, Quarry Hills, Richmond Grove, Riversdale, Riverton, Round Hill, Seaward Bush, Stewart Island, Te Tua, Tokonui, Waianiwa, Waihoaka, Waikaka, Waikaka Valley, Waikawa, Waikawa Valley, Waikiwi, Waimahaka, Waimatuku, Winton, Wallacetown, Wallacetown Junction, West Plains, Woodlands, Wyndham—or 48 places in all. And to these, 162 visits were paid.

By Inspector Gladstone: Alexandra South, Arrowtown, Balclutha, Burnside, Cambrian, Clarksville, Clinton, Clyde, Cromwell, Ettrick, Evans Flat, Gabriel's Gully, Green Island, Hawea Flat, Helensbrook, Houipapa, Kaitangata, Lauder, Lawrence, Linburn, Lowburn, Lumsden, Matakauui, Middlemarch, Miller's Flat, Milton, Mosgiel, Mussel Bay, Ophir, Outram, Owaka, Palmerston South, Pembroke, Port Chalmers, Quartz Reef Point, Queenstown, Ravensbourne, Rough Ridge, Roxburgh, St. Bathans, Sawyer's Bay, Sutton, Tapanui, Tuapeka Flat, Waipiata, Wetherstone's, Waikouaiti—or 48 in all. And to these, 95 visits were paid.

By Inspector Craighead: The scheme of house-to-house inspection, begun last year by Inspector Gladstone, was completed in the suburbs of Dunedin, and that of the City of Dunedin begun by Inspector Craighead. Details of this inspection are given below. This released Inspector Gladstone and enabled him to commence similar inspections in the country towns of my district, some of which are now also detailed below. Besides this work outside the City of Dunedin and in country districts, I and Inspectors Gladstone and Craighead were fully engaged making inspections and performing other duties within the city and suburbs.

It will be seen that we have, either alone or in company, visited 105 places within my district, paying 306 visits to these, during the year.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTIONS OF TOWNS ON WHICH REPORTS WERE SENT TO TOWN COUNCILS, WITH COMMENTS AND REQUESTS TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS.

	Premises inspected.	Defects found.	Percentage.
Dunedin City (part of)	1,714	929	54.20
Roslyn	1,150	386	33.56
St. Kilda	620	340	54.84
Caversham (ward)	1,126	552	48.13
South Dunedin (ward)	1,126	825	75.66
Country towns—			
Owaka	62	18	29.03
Queenstown	260	89	34.23
Tapanui	142	37	26.15
St. Bathans	68	25	36.76
Cambrian	11	3	27.27
Clyde	53	16	30.18
Alexandra South	226	92	41.50
Ettrick	19	4	21.05
Miller's Flat	42	4	9.52
Clinton	98	75	76.53
Middlemarch	55	18	32.72
Lumsden	92	55	59.78
Matakauui	9	2	22.22
East Invercargill	244	185	75.82
Avenal	115	74	64.34
Totals and percentage	7,232	3,729	51.56