

Health Officer's Report.

Reeve and Councillors of Burnaby Municipality:

Dear Sirs: I beg herewith to submit my annual report as medical health officer for the past twelve months.

I am sorry not to be able to report quite such a clean bill of health as last year, but still considering the facts that so many new settlers have come in, and the population must consequently be largely increased, the results may be considered as satisfactory.

The following cases of infectious diseases have been reported to me: Smallpox, 7 cases; measles, 20 cases; scabies or itch, 6 cases. The only serious outbreak was that of smallpox at Barnet during March and April. This was fully reported on to the council at the time, so I do not consider it necessary to enter into the details in the present report.

At the present time a number of cases of measles existed in the municipality near the New Westminster city limits. I have forbidden the attendance at school of all children who

have had the disease and I trust it will soon be stamped out.

Reichenbach's slaughter house which has also been a source of trouble has been thoroughly overhauled. Concrete floors have been put in and a good drain to carry off the liquid waste, and while its situation so near dwelling houses is objectionable, I think that it will not now prove a source of any trouble.

I have visited the various milk ranches, vegetable gardens, etc., and have found them in a satisfactory condition.

The various schools in the municipality are now almost without exception overcrowded and the school board must in the near future face the problem of providing larger accommodation. The water supply at most of the schools is faulty notwithstanding the fact that a good deal of money has been expended in the past to provide proper wells.

Several complaints have reached me with regard to the polluting of small streams through the municipality. It would appear to me that after the district becomes settled it is practically impossible to preserve these streams from pollution, and I think the only safe course is to advise the people not to use the water from these streams at all for drinking purposes.

I beg to thank the reeve and councillors for their hearty co-operation in all matters pertaining to the public health. Their endorsements of many actions in this department have been of greatest assistance in enforcing the health regulations, which when they interfere with the personal convenience of the public are often difficult to carry out.

The reeve's assistance in the Barnet smallpox outbreak was of the greatest assistance to me. I also beg to thank the municipal clerk, Mr. Walker, for his assistance on many occasions, all of which is respectfully submitted.

R. EDEN WALKER,
Medical Health Officer.