

Medical Examinations.

One person was examined for another Government Department, and nine persons for admission to Cambridge Sanatorium.

Inspector's Work.

The appended report shows the nature of the routine work that has been carried out during the year :—

Infectious cases investigated	264
Disinfections	83
Premises inspected	511
Milk-shops inspected	41
Offensive-trade inspections	15
Drainage inspections	74
Complaints investigated	108
Requisitions served and complied with	31
Milk-samples taken	197
Water-samples taken	10
Other samples taken	39
Food-shops inspected	106
Hotels and boardinghouses inspected	58
Schools inspected	19

Plumbing and Drainage Classes.

Classes in these subjects were held by Inspector Kershaw during the year in Timaru, the drainage class especially being well attended. Examinations were held, and a fair proportion of candidates successfully passed the tests.

In Oamaru a plumbing class was conducted for one quarter, but, owing to the lack of support, had to be discontinued.

I have, &c.,

H. E. FINCH,

District Health Officer.

Dr. Mason, Chief Health Officer, Wellington.

PART E.—OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND DISTRICT.

SIR,—

Department of Public Health, Dunedin, 14th June, 1909.

I have now the honour to send you my report on the work of sanitation in my district during the year ended the 31st March, 1909.

I personally have visited practically all the places of any importance in my district during the twelve months, and my Inspectors have paid visits to all the others, so that no part of my district has this year gone without attention.

Though no striking event has occurred in my district, no epidemic having gained head during the year, the minor duties requiring attention have been many and not unimportant, and I venture to state that this part of the Dominion is progressing in sanitary matters, and that the local authorities are appreciating our efforts, and seconding them in a mode that is satisfactory and promising for the future.

My staff has worked well, showing zeal in their duties, and with their assistance, many sanitary improvements have been effected, which have fully occupied their time.

LEGAL ACTIONS.

Legal proceedings were undertaken in the following cases :—

Against a laundryman for continuing to occupy a condemned building at Bluff. The Court ordered him to vacate the premises within seven days.

Against M. C., for concealing the existence of scarlet fever at Makarewa. Penalised, £2 2s.

Against W. H. K., of South Invercargill, for concealing the existence of scarlet fever. Penalised, £1 18s.

Of an unregistered midwife at Alexandra. Successful.

RUINOUS HABITATIONS.

I have inspected some 64 old houses, of which 30 were ordered to be pulled down as being past repair, and 34 were ordered to be repaired. These were situated as follows :—

	Pulled Down.	Repaired.
Dunedin City	15	27
North-east Valley	1	1
St. Kilda	1	1
Invercargill	1	1
Port Chalmers	1	..
Palmerston South and neighbourhood	1	1
Lawrence	4	1
Waitahuna	1
Edendale	5	1
Near Maitaura	1	..