

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
President and Committees
of the Board of Commissioners
of the
TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON



For the Year Ending January 7th, 1918

COMMISSIONERS
of the
TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON
PENNSYLVANIA



Commissioners

CHARLES F. MEBUS, President
DAVID F. BENNINGHOFF, Vice-Pres.
HORACE BOWMAN
THEODORE EDWARDS
PENROSE HALLOWELL
H. P. ROBINSON
JACOB ROEHM

Solicitor

HARRY S. AMBLER, JR.

Secretary

E. RAYMOND AMBLER

Chief of Police

H. S. LEVER

Supervisor of Highways

PHILIP ROUSE

Ass't to Secretary

NICHOLAS BAGGS



Finance Committee

BOWMAN, HALLOWELL, ROBINSON

Highway Committee

BENNINGHOFF, HALLOWELL, MEBUS, ROEHM

Police Committee

EDWARDS, ROBINSON, BOWMAN

Fire Department

BENNINGHOFF, BOWMAN, EDWARDS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Board meet on the Second Friday of each month
at 8 P. M.

Board Meetings are open to the Public



FOR GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS

Call the Secretary, Bell, Ogontz 704

Office Hours 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.

Saturdays, 9 a. m. to 12 a. m.

Holidays Excepted



FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE

Call Police Department Bell, Ogontz 729
Keystone, Jenkintown 137

Office Always Open



FOR ASSISTANCE IN CASE OF FIRE

Call Police Department

Which will direct the nearest Fire Company
to proceed immediately to the fire.

INDEX

	Page
President's Report - - -	7
Report of Finance Committee -	8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14
Auditor's Report - - -	15, 16
Report of Police Committee - -	17, 18
Report of Highway Committee - -	19
Report of Fire Committee - -	20
Report of Board of Health - -	20

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

January 7, 1918.

Commissioners of the Township of Abington,

Gentlemen:—

The reports of the various committees give fully, the details of the business transacted by the Board for the Year 1917.

Nothing of any special nature took place during the year. The great increase in the cost of labor and materials will, however, make it necessary to obtain additional revenue to just hold our own.

During the year, ashes have been collected under the direction of the Supervisor of Highways, by the Township Forces. This work has been well done and the change from Contract work appears to have been the proper thing to do.

Street Lights have been placed as follows:

Tennis Avenue and Limekiln Pike	1
Plank Road near Tyson Lane	1
Meadowbrook and Huntingdon Roads	1
Lenox Road	5

I again recommend that all tax-payers familiarize themselves with the work of the various Departments by carefully reading the reports which follow.

Respectfully,

CHARLES F. MEBUS,
President.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Charles F. Mebus,

President Commissioners of Abington:—

Your Financial Committee beg to submit the following report which show the appropriations and expenditures for the year 1917.

Yours truly,

HORACE BOWMAN,
Chairman.

OFFICE EXPENSES

Appropriation	\$1,500.00	
Transferred from Contingent	500.00	
	\$2,000.00	

Expenditures: (All paid)

Advertising	357.81
Coal	230.91
Printing and Postage	494.99
Light	346.64
Telephone	90.00
Sundries	49.06
Repairing Heater	60.25
Accountants' Services	125.00
Office Furniture	93.92
Mounting Map	16.50
Brush, Broom, Soap, etc.	14.97
Flag	9.00
Town Clerk's Bond	5.00
Laundry	24.12
Typewriting	19.00
Postage	30.85

Total Expenditures		1,968.02
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Balance Unexpended		\$ 31.98
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SALARIES OF TOWN CLERK AND JANITOR

Appropriation		\$1,800.00
Expenditures (All paid)		\$1,800.00

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Appropriation		\$14,800.00
Expenditures: (All paid)		
Salaries	\$10,780.83	
Food for Prisoners	90.95	
Uniforms	296.70	
Telephones	921.95	
Insurance on Automobiles	202.78	
Gasoline and Oil for Automobiles	1,146.76	
Ice	8.38	
Water	33.17	
Printing	24.50	
Dues of Associations	19.00	
Equipment	1,182.86	
Coal	54.50	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenditures Police Dept. Account		14,762.38
		<hr/>
Balance Unexpended		\$ 37.62
		<hr/>

BOARD OF HEALTH

Appropriation	\$1,500.00	
Transferred to Highway Department	450.00	
	<hr/>	1,050.00
Expenditures: (All paid)		
Salaries	780.00	
Traveling Expenses	17.60	
Fumigators	11.25	
Food for Sick	4.59	
Dues	20.00	
Professional Services	85.00	
Printing	52.00	
Chemicals	1.20	
Flag	9.00	
	<hr/>	
Total Expenditures		980.64
		<hr/>
Balance Unexpended		\$ 69.36
		<hr/>

ROAD LIGHTS

Appropriation	\$8,200.00
Expenditures (All paid)	8,279.71
	<hr/>
Overdrawn	\$ 79.71
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FIRE HYDRANTS

Appropriation	\$1,750.00
Expenditures (All paid)	1,683.25
	<hr/>
Balance Unexpended	\$ 66.75
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REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Appropriation		\$2,100.00
Expenditures: (All paid)		
Salary	\$ 60.00	
Postage79	
Edge Hill Fire Company	500.00	
Abington Fire Company	500.00	
McKinley Fire Company	500.00	
Weldon Fire Company	500.00	
Total Expenditures		<u>2,060.79</u>
Balance Unexpended		\$ 39.21

ASHES AND GARBAGE

Appropriation		\$2,900.00
Expenditures		<u>3,038.27</u>
Overdrawn		\$ 138.27

LEGAL

Appropriation		\$625.00
Expenditures (All paid)		<u>600.00</u>
Balance Unexpended		\$ 25.00

SIDEWALKS

Appropriation		\$500.00
Expenditures:		
North Glenside	\$250.00	
Glenside	215.00	
Total Expenditures		<u>465.00</u>
Balance Unexpended		\$ 35.00

CONTINGENT

Appropriation		\$1,473.00
Transferred to Office Expense Appropriation	500.00	
		<u>\$973.00</u>
Expenditures:		
Auditors	31.00	
Township Building	205.07	
Office Furniture	43.36	
E. A. Richardson	76.00	
Closets	26.45	
Water Cranes	83.71	
Insurance, Fire (Buildings & Equipment) for 5 years	311.25	
J. M. Harmer (old account)	150.93	
W. T. Muldrew, Survey	55.00	
H. and A. Shaffer	1.44	
Total Expenditures		<u>984.21</u>
Overdrawn		\$ 11.21

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued

HIGHWAYS

Appropriation	\$25,000.00	
Ordinance No. 125 including \$450.00 from Board of Health Account	1,500.00	
		26,500.00
Expenditures (all paid)		
Abington District No. 1:		
Welsh Road	\$ 13.00	
Huntingdon Road	151.25	
Edge Hill Road	70.50	
Susquehanna Road	1,052.72	
Cloverly Lane	72.52	
Woodland Road	549.31	
Bradfield Road	22.00	
Highland Avenue	12.08	
Willow Grove Pike	34.43	
Slag	22.96	
Total Expenditures Abington Dis.		2,000.77
Saw Mill Hill District No. 2:		
Mill Road	1,127.57	
Ford Road	319.50	
Valley Road	890.84	
Fox Chase Road	129.81	
Susquehanna Road	231.27	
Washington Lane	888.27	
Meetinghouse Road	628.81	
Shady Lane	28.50	
Greenwood Avenue	27.19	
Meadowbrook Road	17.82	
Cleaning Pipes	25.00	
Slag	34.45	
Mixing Headley Good Roads No. 1 ..	75.50	
Total Expen. Saw Mill Hill Dist. (see also Permanent Improv. Acct.)		4,424.53
Weldon District No. 3:		
Streets of Glenside	1,171.70	
Edge Hill Road	90.64	
Plank Road	40.84	
Cleaning Inlets and Pipes	15.00	
Roslyn Avenue	50.50	
Wharton Avenue	3.68	
Slag	68.95	
Jenkintown Avenue	972.33	
Roberts Avenue	35.84	
Keswick Avenue	57.25	
Tyson Avenue	502.14	
Lynwood Avenue	105.00	
Woodlyn Avenue	39.75	
Susquehanna Road	108.45	
Highland Avenue	261.30	
Geneva Avenue	409.91	
Mt. Carmel Avenue	42.39	
Willow Grove Pike	45.00	
Total Expen. Weldon Dist.		4,020.67

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued

McKinley District No. 4:

Streets of McKinley	127.63
Summit Avenue	53.25
Forest Avenue	555.42
Cedar Road	4.50
Jenkintown Road	684.26
Fox Chase Road	57.38
Cleaning Pipes and Inlets	11.75
Township Line Road	23.38
Meetinghouse Road	761.82
Cypress Avenue	4.50
Osceola Avenue	47.38
Cheltenham Road	19.75
Wyncote Road	52.44
Greenwood Avenue	27.20
Lennox Avenue	10.94
Washington Lane	41.45

Total Expen. McKinley Dist.	2,483.05
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Crestmont District No. 5:

Welsh Road	324.20
Davisville Road	133.75
Fairview Avenue	4.75
Fitzwatertown Road	5.25
Tyson Road	12.75
Streets of Crestmont	234.00
Survey at Ardsley	25.00
Ferndale Avenue	54.66

Total Expen. Crestmont Dist.	794.36
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North Glenside District No. 6:

Streets of North Glenside	79.04
Mt. Carmel Avenue	56.57
Jenkintown Road	911.95
Edge Hill Road	134.23
Edge Hill Avenue	46.50
Pine Avenue	164.14
Susquehanna Road	413.81
Mt. Carmel Avenue	30.03
Fitzwatertown Road	23.40
Ash Dump	9.66
Repairing Pipes	18.25
Slag	11.48
Lime Kiln Pike	34.42

Total Expen. N. Glenside Dist.	1,933.48
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Noble District No. 7:

Runnymede Avenue	593.67
Rydal Road	2,014.71
Noble Road	116.10
Susquehanna Avenue	116.97
Highland Avenue	91.12
Streets of Noble	14.00
Inlets at Noble	10.00

Total Expen. Noble District	2,956.57
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REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued

Miscellaneous:

Salary	2,353.33
Auto Maintenance	437.32
Gasoline and Oil	587.10
Tools and Supplies	313.55
Book	2.53
Printing	21.00
State Township Line	67.45
Supervisors Association	9.52
Repairing Machinery	61.80
Insurance (Roller)	119.13
Township Building	180.44
Water Cranes	113.96
Traveling Expenses	14.86
Sprinkling	4.20
Mixing H. G. R. No. 1	26.50
Signs	23.50
Storing Truck	16.00
Ash Dump	8.25

Total Expense Account	4,360.44
New Machine Mixer Bought	524.53
New Motor Truck Bought	3,315.20

Total Miscellaneous Account 8,200.17

Total Highway Account \$26,813.60

Overdrawn \$ 313.60

INTEREST ON TEMPORARY LOANS

Appropriation	\$ 900.00
Expenditures (All Paid)	1,014.25
Overdrawn (See Refund by Bank of \$134.76)	<u>\$ 114.25</u>

SALARIES TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS

Appropriation	\$ 420.00
Expenditures (All Paid)	<u>\$ 420.00</u>

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

Appropriation	\$ 425.00
Expenditures (All Paid)	322.47
Balance Unexpended	<u>\$ 102.53</u>

TREASURER'S COMPENSATION

Appropriation	\$3,000.00
Expenditures:	
Paid on Account to date	\$2,509.88
Balance Due	736.73

Total Compensation 3,246.61

Overdrawn \$ 246.61

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued

TREASURER'S EXPENSE

No Appropriation
 Expenditures (All paid)\$ 294.70

TEMPORARY LOANS

Appropriation\$10,000.00
 Expenditures (All paid)\$10,000.00

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS—PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST

Appropriation\$22,857.00
 Expenditures:

Interest on Permanent Loans:

1906	\$1,400.00
1907	2,400.00
1911	1,400.00
1912	6,360.00
1913	1,250.00
1915	500.00

Total Interest 13,310.00

Sinking Funds:

1906	1,900.00
1907	2,100.00
1911	1,167.00
1912	3,480.00
1913	550.00
1915	350.00

Total Sinking Funds 9,547.00

Total Expenditures \$22,857.00

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS

Balance Unexpended from 1916	\$ 25.98
Received from Commissioners Cheltenham Township ..	2,195.13
Received Interest on Bank Balance	14.34
	<u>\$2,235.45</u>

Expenditures:

Auditor F. S. Gentry 135.00

Washington Lane at Rydal Station:

Reconstructing Road with Asphalt

Binder, Draining, etc.

Labor	\$987.81
Stone, F. H. Jarrett	142.65
Inlets, J. Thompson & Co. ..	27.50
Brick, Florey's Brick Wks.	24.00
Lumber, F. G. Justice	3.27
Asphalt U. S. Asp. Pav. Co.	33.40

1,218.63

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued

Meetinghouse Road Culvert:

Labor	273.64	
Sand & Cement, &c., L. A.		
Nagle	117.21	
Survey	20.00	
Pipe, S. L. Schively	2.70	
		<u>413.55</u>
Steel for reinforcing concrete to be used in Valley over culvert ..		155.75
		<u>1,787.93</u>

Total Expenditures (All paid)	\$1,922.93
Balance Unexpended	<u>\$ 312.52</u>

SWITCHVILLE BRIDGE

Received from County Commissioners	\$17,000.00	
Received Interest on Bank Balances	328.90	
		<u>\$17,328.90</u>
Expenditures (All paid)		17,000.00
Balance Unexpended		<u>\$ 328.90</u>

AUDITOR'S REPORT

of the Accounts of W. Howard Wilson, Treasurer, and the Commissioners
of Abington Township, Montgomery County, Penna.
From the first Monday of January, 1917, to the first Monday of January, 1918.

DEBITS

Balance		\$13,513.19
Tax Duplicate, 1917		\$89,615.70
Discount	\$3,209.23	
Allowances	725.05	
Unseated Lands	1,081.75	
		<u>5,016.03</u>
Net Tax Duplicate, 1917		84,599.67
Penalty 5 per cent. on uncollected taxes \$9,905.10		495.26
Interest on Bank balances		495.61
License fee, (Hotel) not collected		
Amount received from Town Clerk		68,879.59
Transfer from Permanent Improvement Acct. to General Acct.		1,787.93
		<u>\$169,771.25</u>

CREDITS

Finance Vouchers	\$109,205.69
Highway Vouchers	28,685.24
Switchville Bridge Account	17,000.00
From Permanent Improvement Account	135.00
Transfer from Permanent Improvement Account to General Account	1,787.93

AUDITOR'S REPORT—Continued

TREASURER'S COMPENSATION

3 per cent. on \$84,599.67	\$2,537.99	
3 per cent. on 495.26	14.86	
1 per cent. on 68,879.59	688.80	
1 per cent. on 495.61	4.96	
Expenses allowed \$294.70		
Expenses paid 294.70		
	\$3,246.61	
Paid on account of Compensation	2,509.88	736.73 157,550.59
Balance due Township		\$ 12,220.66

UNPAID BILLS

Office, none.
Contingent, none.
Highway, none.

There is, however, included in the General Account, a Garbage Contract Deposit made by Lewis B. Lukens, in December, 1917, cash amounting to \$150.00. This deposit is on account of 1918 Garbage Contract.

LIABILITIES

Balance Loan 1906	\$ 35,000.00	
Balance Loan 1907	60,000.00	
Loan 1911	35,000.00	
Balance Loan 1912	154,000.00	
Loan 1913	25,000.00	
Loan 1915	10,000.00	
Temporary Loan, Jenkintown National Bank Note February 8, 1917	10,000.00	\$329,000.00

CASH ASSETS

Sinking Fund, Loan 1906	\$ 2,108.15	
" " " 1907	2,687.26	
" " " 1911	7,585.63	
" " " 1912	3,761.47	
" " " 1913	2,305.23	
" " " 1915	713.25	
Due from Treasurer	12,220.66	\$31,381.65

WE, the undersigned Township Auditors of Abington Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, do hereby report that we have audited, settled and adjusted the accounts of the Board of Township Commissioners of Abington Township, and of W. Howard Wilson, the Township Treasurer, for the year beginning the first Monday of January, 1917, and ending on the first Monday of January, 1918, and find that the above statement of the list of receipts, expenditures, credits and debits, is a true and correct account of said settlement and audit, and we find said accounts correct as stated above.

Signed:

E. J. DONOUGH,
ENOS E. SHUPP,
E. W. JENKINS,

Auditors.

Abington, Pa., January 28, 1918.

Attest:—E. RAYMOND AMBLER, Secretary.

REPORT OF POLICE COMMITTEE

Charles F. Mebus, President,
Commissioners of Abington Township,
Montgomery County, Penna.

Dear Sir:—

Your Committee of Police have the honor of submitting to you our annual report for the year 1917.

Statement of expenditures will be found on Page 9 of Finance Committee report.

REPORTS TO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Persons killed and reported to Coroner:		
Falling out of barn door	1	
By railroad train	1	
By auto	1	
	3	3
Attempted Suicides		1
Sudden deaths reported to Coroner (natural causes)		5
Persons hurt in accidents reported to this department:		
Falling off railroad trains	1	
By automobiles	9	
Run over by wagon	1	
Hit by trolley car	5	
Falling off trolley cars	2	
	18	18
Dangerous wires reported to companies	5	
Dangerous holes in highways and bridges reported to Road Engineer	6	
Fires reported	15	
Telephone poles blown down and reported to companies	1	
Trees blown down and reported to Road Engineer	3	
Dogs killed by officers	18	
Stolen automobiles recovered	5	
Stolen horses recovered	1	
Strayed teams recovered	1	
Leaking mains reported to Water Company	1	
Street lights reported out	855	
Prisoners photographed, measured and finger-prints taken	46	
Value of stolen goods recovered	\$2,940.00	
During the year 311 arrests were made and classified as follows:		
Automobiles	48	
Assault and battery	11	
Assault and battery, disorderly conduct	4	
Aggravated assault and battery	4	
Assault and battery and larceny	1	
Alien having a gun	1	
Attempted larceny	3	
Assault and battery with intent to kill	1	
Burglary	2	
Breaking, entering, and larceny	3	
Committed to poor house	3	
Concealed deadly weapons	7	
Cruelty to animals	1	
Drunk	39	
Drunk and disorderly	3	

REPORT OF POLICE COMMITTEE—Continued

Disorderly conduct	10
Driving without lights	2
Deserter from U. S. Navy	1
Disturbing religious meeting	2
Desertion	1
Fornication	10
False pretense	2
Felonious entry and larceny and receiving stolen goods	2
Failing to register	1
Horse thief	1
Insane	7
Involuntary manslaughter	1
Enticing minors for immoral purposes	1
Inmate of disorderly house	2
Indecent exposure	2
Indecent assault	1
Keeping disorderly house and rape	1
Larceny	23
Malicious mischief	18
Material witness	2
Non-support	3
Pickpocket	3
Running automobile while intoxicated	2
Runaway boys	15
Rape	2
Reckless driving	1
Suspicious	40
Shooting crap	7
Selling explosives to minors	2
Threats	4
Threats to kill	1
Trespass	1
Vagrancy	8
Violation of parole	1
	— 311
Lodgers accommodated	21
Meals served to prisoners	705

In submitting the report, we desire to express our thanks and appreciation to you, the President, and all members of the board, for the courtesy extended us during the past year.

The officers of the department have faithfully performed their duty during the year in all its branches.

Respectfully submitted,

THEO. EDWARDS,
Chairman.

REPORT OF HIGHWAY COMMITTEE

Charles F. Mebus, President,
Abington Township Commissioners,

Dear Sir:—

As chairman of the Highway Committee, I desire to submit the following report:

Details of expenditures will be found on Page 11, Report of Finance Committee.

During the year 1917, we used 5,000 gallons of Headley Good Roads Company No. 1 Compound, mixed with proper quantity of crushed trap rock, for filling pot holes on the following roads; Edge Hill, Fox Chase, Jenkintown, Lenox, Meetinghouse, Rydal, Washington Lane, Welsh, Woodland, Wyncote, and Greenwood, Mount Carmel, Roberts and Tyson avenues. This treatment has proved a success, and I believe, adds to the life of our roads.

We applied 3,500 gallons of Aztec Liquid Asphalt on Washington Lane near Rydal station.

We also applied Trinidad Liquid Asphalt as follows:

3,120 gallons on Geneva avenue,	7,700 gallons on Jenkintown road,
5,300 gallons on Mill road,	1,000 gallons on Roslyn avenue,
6,360 gallons on Rydal road,	3,180 gallons on Runnymede avenue,
5,300 gallons on Susquehanna road,	3,180 gallons on Tyson avenue,
4,240 gallons on Valley road,	2,120 gallons on Woodland road,
	1,000 gallons on Woodlyn avenue.

These oil treatments were covered with 1,600 tons of crushed Slag.

We resurfaced 300 feet of Pine avenue, North Glenside, with Slag.

Twenty-nine cars of cinders were procured through Mr. Bowman, gratis, and placed on the streets of Crestmont.

We placed a concrete culvert on Meetinghouse road near the Fox Chase road, also placed drains on the hill of Washington Lane at Rydal station, after which, we resurfaced same. These are of a permanent nature and have relieved the undesirable conditions that heretofore existed.

Our roads at present are in very fair condition, the credit for which is due our Supervisor of Highways, Mr. Philip Rouse, who has carried out the wishes of this Department.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the officers and members of the Board for their hearty co-operation and good feeling toward this department.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID F. BENNINGHOFF,
Chairman of Highway Com.

REPORT OF FIRE COMMITTEE

Charles F. Mebus, President,
Abington Township Commissioners,
Abington, Penna.

Dear Sir:—

Your Fire Department wish to submit the following report for the year 1917:—

There have been 59 fires reported this year, ten of which were woods and five field fires.

Of the fires reported, Abington Fire Co. No. 1, District No. 1, attended 25; McKinley Fire Co. No. 1 of District No. 2 attended 4; Weldon Fire Co. No. 1 of District No. 3 attended 28; and Edge Hill Fire Co. No. 1 of District No. 4 attended 39.

The total value of buildings on fire this year was \$67,125.00. The value of the contents was \$15,250.00. The amount of damage to buildings was \$61,395.00 and to contents \$8,700.00, showing a saving of \$14,260.00.

While this showing is not quite as good as it has been in the past, the reason for same is that some of the fires were a total loss owing to the fact that they were situated out of reach of fire plugs, which shows the necessity of all the companies being equipped with pumping apparatus. Of course, as these are expensive it will take time to get them, but I believe that if our appropriation were increased next year, we would soon have a Department equal to any in the State.

Of the fires reported above, eleven were insured to the amount of \$27,750.00.

Very truly yours,

DAVID F. BENNINGHOFF,
Chairman Fire Department.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Commissioners of Abington Township,

Gentlemen:—

Your Health Board report that during the Year 1917, the following cases were reported by physicians:

Mumps	59	Measles	32
Chicken Pox	30	Whooping Cough	20
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	Scarlet Fever	7
German Measles	5	Pneumonia	4
Typhoid Fever	3	Diphtheria	2
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	2	Erysipelas	1

Details of expenditures will be found on Page 9, Report of Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

F. E. CHESTERMAN, President.