

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH
OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING



HENDERSONVILLE, N. C.

JUNE 17, 1912

REPORTS ON COUNTY HEALTH WORK BY COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS OF HEALTH

In accordance with item nine of the program the Health Officers' of the various counties were called in alphabetic order for a report of the health work accomplished in their respective counties during the past year.

The following counties were represented and reports were made through their County Superintendents of Health:

Brunswick County.

DR. J. A. DOSHER, County Superintendent of Health.
Present, but made no report.

Buncombe County.

DR. D. E. SEVIER, County Superintendent of Health.
Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

With your permission Buncombe County Superintendent of Health desires to submit the following report as to the various institutions and contagious and infectious diseases of said county.

The Health Officer has under his care and supervision the county jail, with an average of twenty-five inmates a month; the Children's Home, with an average of fifteen; the Boys' Reformatory, with an average of ten; the County Home, with an average of fifty inmates; and two convict camps, with an average of seventy-five inmates per month, besides the examination of all applicants for exemption, and the supervision and quarantining of all contagious and infectious diseases of the county.

The above named institutions are visited each week, and daily when an inmate requires medical attention. At this time they are all in good health and the sanitation good.

Soon after the no-quarantine law for smallpox went into effect your County Health Officer went before the County Commissioners and asked that they issue an order requiring the Superintendents of all county institutions to assist the County Health Officer in vaccinating the inmates of said institutions which was promptly complied with, and it was at this time the guards were advised and urged to be vaccinated, but with no avail, all turning a deaf ear and arguing that Dr. — had stated vaccination was not an absolutely positive preventive.

About the middle of March three convicts were sent from Madison county to the Buncombe county chain gang, and placed in the cell with

the other convicts before they had been inspected by the Buncombe County Health Officer. About thirty-six hours later the Health Officer was called and asked to respond at once, which he did, and on his arrival at the camps found one of the Madison men broke out with smallpox, and the other two men with all symptoms of smallpox. The man broken out stated that he was breaking out when he left Madison.

During this time they had mingled with the other convicts. The guards at this time were very much frightened and insisted that they be vaccinated, with two exceptions, one giving up his position, and the other still arguing he could prevent smallpox by eating sulphur and cream of tartar. Later this man developed smallpox and was the only man that contracted the disease, and had been the least exposed.

I am thoroughly convinced by actual experience that the present law as it now exists is the best for our commonwealth, and puts every law abiding citizen on the watch for smallpox and other contagious and infectious diseases.

Buncombe has handled seventeen cases of smallpox, three cases of measles, six cases of scarlet fever, and fourteen cases of diphtheria during the past year, and at present the county is free from all.

I find that measles and whooping cough are not reported for the simple reason very few cases are treated by physicians.

Last summer your County Health Officer visited the various school buildings of the county, numbering one hundred and five, finding many of them in bad sanitary condition, many being without sanitary surface closets, and the drinking water supply with drainage overflow from the grounds surrounding the school buildings, where no closet was found.

The grounds as well as the buildings were ordered cleaned, many sanitary closets erected, and many springs abandoned and wells dug and covered with concrete.

The Health Officer advised that each school building be fumigated, which met with the hearty approval of our most excellent County Superintendent of Public Instruction, Prof. A. C. Reynolds, which could have been done at a reasonable fee, but was not complied with owing to the school committee being short on funds. I have thought, and still think, this would be a wise step and money well spent.

The Chairman of the Board of Education, Mr. Geo. S. Powell, has been more than active and rendered great assistance in placing sanitary closets and improving the drinking water supply, and has visited several of the schools with your Health Officer. As a result of this inspection of the schools I am confident we have improved the sanitary condition and lessened the spread of typhoid fever throughout our county.

The same inspection will be made this summer, and if possible each school building will be fumigated and a sanitary closet established at

each with a rigid inspection as to the water supply, having all springs abandoned where they catch the overflow from the grounds surrounding the school buildings.

On the establishment of the West Asheville Board of Health, your County Health Officer has been working hand in hand with them. We have had the hog pens moved to a reasonable distance from the streets and main thoroughfares, and have also checked the dumping of garbage along the public roads which has added greatly to the sanitation of our County. Have also inspected the principle watersheds. In conclusion I wish to make mention of the sanitary condition of Asheville, now under the supervision of our worthy City Health Officer, Dr. L. B. McBrayer, who has done more for the upbuilding of the health department than any of his predecessors, unless it was Dr. M. H. Fletcher, who so ably and successfully vaccinated the city.

Much credit is also due alderman W. R. Patterson, now Chairman of the Sanitary Committee, who has been instrumental in getting the sanitary appropriations increased from fifteen thousand to twenty-five thousand dollars for the city of Asheville alone.

I believe the city of Asheville today is in a healthier condition than ever before, and that the surrounding county is equally as good.

In canvassing the county it was gratifying to find the many citizens in the rural districts better posted as to sanitation than citizens in our city, or those who had better advantages. They were ready at all times to assist, and eager for instructions and lectures and insisting that their neighborhoods be visited as often as possible.

Camden County.

DR. W. W. SAWYER, County Superintendent of Health.

The county authorities have decided to place sanitary privies at every public school house in the county.

Cherokee County.

DR. J. N. HILL, County Superintendent of Health.

Health Officer present and made favorable report, but has not responded to written request from the Secretary to furnish an abstract of his report.

Columbus County

DR. H. B. MAXWELL, County Superintendent of Health.

Dr. Maxwell reports very little yet accomplished. Superintendent of Health's salary has been increased from \$10.00 to \$500.00 a year. He is required to visit all the public schools of the county and inspect the school children and grounds once a year. An ordinance has been enacted abolishing hog pens from the county seat. A regulation relating to surface closets in the county has also been enacted.

Cumberland County.

DR. WILLIAM S. JORDAN, County Superintendent of Health.

Health Officer present and made favorable report, but has not responded to written request from the Secretary to furnish an abstract of his report.

Davidson County.

DR. D. J. HILL, County Superintendent of Health.

Health Officer present and made favorable report, but has not responded to written request from the Secretary to furnish an abstract of his report.

Davie County.

DR. J. W. RODWELL, County Superintendent of Health.

Dr. Rodwell reports little accomplished along the lines of health in Davie county during the past year. He states that a considerable amount of public health literature, obtained from the State Board of Health, was distributed and believes that in that way some good was accomplished.

Durham County.

DR. N. M. JOHNSON, County Superintendent of Health.

The Health Officer reports that every public school building and grounds in the county was inspected during the past year, and a number of changes for better sanitation recommended; a number of talks to the public schools were made, and some of the school children were examined for defects. A number of circulars relating to hygiene and sanitation were distributed through the school children. An effort to secure sanitary privies at all public school buildings has been made. Progress is being made in better care of prisoners and dependents. An \$8,000.00 prison is being built at the County Home. A part of this building will be in the nature of a hospital for the care of the sick. There has been a noticeable decrease in the number of cases of contagious diseases.

Forsyth County.

DR. JOHN BYNUM, County Superintendent of Health.

An ordinance requiring the vaccination of all school children before entering the schools next fall has been enacted. A strong effort with a promise of success is being made to induce the county authorities to employ a superintendent of health for his entire time. It is very probable that the county will have an appropriation for the hookworm dispensary work.

Gaston County.

DR. L. N. GLENN, County Superintendent of Health.
Health Officer present, but does not furnish copy of report.

Gates County.

DR. G. D. WILLIAMS, County Superintendent of Health.
Present, but not reporting.

Granville County

DR. S. D. BOOTH, County Superintendent of Health.

The county authorities have enacted an ordinance requiring the reporting of all births. They have enacted another ordinance requiring the registration of all midwives; another ordinance requiring the vaccination of all school children living in school districts wherein a case of smallpox appears has been enacted. An ordinance prohibiting the placing of the carcass of any animal on the top of the ground within one-quarter of a mile of any residence or road has been enacted. It has further been ordered by the authorities of the county that all privies in all incorporated towns of the county be screened from flies.

Greene County.

DR. W. B. MURPHY, County Superintendent of Health.
Health Officer present but did not make any report.

Guilford County.

DR. G. FLOYD ROSS, County Superintendent of Health.
Health Officer present and states that his report will be included in paper which follows.

Haywood County.

DR. J. R. MCCracken, County Superintendent of Health.
Health Officer made favorable report, but on written request of the Secretary has failed to furnish an abstract of his report.

Henderson County.

DR. J. S. BROWN, County Superintendent of Health.
Health Officer present but has failed to furnish an abstract of his report.

Iredell County

DR. A. CAMPBELL, County Superintendent of Health.
Health Officer present but made no report.

Johnston County.

DR. A. H. ROSE, County Superintendent of Health.
The county authorities require the County Superintendent of Health to visit the ten incorporated towns of the county quarterly and to make a sanitary inspection of them. He is also required to visit every graded school in the county and examine as many defective children as his time will permit.

Mecklenburg County.

DR. C. S. McLAUGHLIN, County Superintendent of Health.
Health Officer present but made no report.

Montgomery County.

DR. C. DALIGNY, County Superintendent of Health.
The county authorities have required the erection of sanitary privies at all public school houses in the county; have added typhoid fever to the list of reportable diseases, and the county town has inaugurated a

"clean up week." The County Superintendent of Health has made talks on sanitation in two of the county towns.

Rockingham County.

DR. SAM ELLINGTON, County Superintendent of Health.

Two epidemics of smallpox and three of scarlet fever have been successfully controlled during the past year. Spray is becoming one of the healthiest mill towns in the State. There has been much improvement in the sanitary condition of the dairies in Rockingham county. Water coolers have been installed in all of the schools, both white and colored, of the county.

At present a determined effort is being made to have a large dam removed from Haw River, and the health officer is sure that this will result in great benefit to the public health of the county.

Rowan County.

MR. P. B. BEARD, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners.
(Delegate).

Mr. Beard reported that the people of Rowan county were becoming very much interested in matters of sanitation generally. Mr. Beard discussed the Dacro system of closing milk bottles and strongly recommended its more general use.

Sampson County.

DR. GEORGE M. COOPER, County Superintendent of Health.

The Health Officer reports that smallpox has been successfully managed under the "no quarantine law." The Health Officer says he is unable to enforce quarantine of measles and whooping cough.

The county institutions are kept clean and sanitary. The county medical profession is deeply interested in health matters and cordially co-operative. The Mayor of the county town is a progressive man, thoroughly abreast of the times, and is in hearty sympathy with the enactment and enforcement of the health laws. The Civic League is responsible for an annual "clean up day" in the county town.

The hookworm dispensary work has been carried on in the county during the last year, and has resulted in untold good. The great need of Sampson county is a vital statistics law and a whole time Health Officer.

Stokes County.

DR. J. W. NEAL, County Superintendent of Health.

The common drinking cups have been abolished from many of the public schools. A new County Home with all modern and sanitary conveniences is in contemplation.

Wake County.

DR. J. J. L. McCULLERS, County Superintendent of Health.

Mr. President: As is well known, Wake county has been forced to test the validity of the health laws of North Carolina, McCullers vs.

Commissioners. We are well pleased to say that the Supreme Court upheld the law and sustained the appointment of the Secretary of the State Board of Health. During the litigation the health work was sadly neglected, no inspections made, and no legal report made as to sanitary conditions, which became very bad. Since the decision of the Supreme Court, the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, who was the chief impediment to the advancement of health work, has resigned, and in his stead we have had one of the most progressive and capable men in the county appointed, Mr. John A. Mills. Our new Chairman is in hearty sympathy with all the efforts of the Superintendent of Health to improve the health and sanitary condition of the good old mother county. We have instituted a new system to improve the very unsanitary conditions of our jail. We have purchased two suits of clothes for each prisoner at a cost of \$1.35 per suit, and each prisoner is required to have his hair clipped and to take a bath at least once a week. We require all prisoners before entering the jail to have their hair clipped, take a thoroughly sanitary bath, and change all clothing. If he has a venereal disease he is not allowed in a cell with other prisoners, but is confined in a separate cell set apart for such cases. We hope by rigid enforcement of the above rules to soon have our jail second to none in the State as to comfort and sanitation. We are working under the fee system, as suggested by the State Health Officers' Association, which we think is a fair and just compensation for the work done. I am pleased to state that our Board, as now composed, is in hearty accord and full sympathy with the best efforts of the Superintendent of Health along all lines of preventive medicine and sanitation for the county at large, as well as the various institutions of the county.

Warren County.

DR. M. P. PERRY, County Superintendent of Health.
Present, but made no report.

THE FULL TIME COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER—THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH MACHINERY.

WARDELL STILES, LL.D., PROFESSOR OF ZOOLOGY, U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH AND MARINE HOSPITAL SERVICE.

Public health work consists of two kinds of education: (1) education by instruction, corresponding in general to the methods followed in our school system; and (2) education by coercion, corresponding in general to the methods followed by the police authorities.

In considering any plan of organization of our public health forces, it will be well to hold this comparison in mind, and since we are in our infancy in public health development it seems probable that we may learn some important practical lessons in organization by studying the two other departments referred to, namely, the machinery of the departments of public instruction, and the machinery of the policing departments.

The policing bodies consist of different units, one or another of which comes into activity according to circumstances. If a thug attacks us, we as individuals, protect ourselves as best we can, and if necessary, we call upon the local police or the county sheriff for aid and protection. If local authorities exhaust their efforts in riots of lawless people and are unable to give protection to life and property, the State comes to the aid of the county or city, but note the important point that the State does not interfere until requested by the local authorities, or until the local officers prove themselves inefficient or helpless. If the State forces are unable to handle the difficulty, or if Federal property is involved, the National Government is called upon for aid or enters the field of its own accord. If

PROGRAM

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HEALTH OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION, HENDERSONVILLE, N. C., JUNE 17, 1912

SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

MONDAY, 9:30 a. m.

1. Meeting called to order by President MaBrayer.
2. Enrollment of members.
3. Address of Welcome, Dr. J. S. Brown, County Superintendent of Health of Henderson County, Hendersonville, N. C.
4. Response to Address of Welcome, Dr. D. C. Absher, Health Officer, Mount Airy, N. C.
5. President's Address, Dr. L. B. McBrayer, Health Officer, Asheville, N. C.
6. Reading of Minutes of Last Annual Meeting, Dr. W. S. Rankin, Secretary, North Carolina Health Officers' Association, Raleigh, N. C.
7. Report of Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. W. S. Rankin, Secretary, North Carolina Health Officers' Association, Raleigh, N. C.
8. Report of Committees:
 - (a) Publicity Committee, Dr. W. S. Rankin, Chairman, Raleigh, N. C.
 - (b) Legislative Committee, Dr. W. A. McPhaul, Chairman, Lumberton, N. C.
9. Reports of County Health Officers of health work done in their respective counties during the year, and of the work contemplated for the ensuing year. The counties will be called alphabetically.
10. The Opportunity of County Health Work: Dr. G. Floyd Ross, County Superintendent of Health of Guilford County, Greensboro, N. C.
11. Discussion: Opened by Dr. B. W. Page, County Superintendent of Health, Robeson County, Lumberton, N. C.; continued by Dr. W. A. McPhaul, former Superintendent of Health of Robeson County, and Member of General Assembly 1911, Lumberton, N. C.; Dr. J. E. Malone, County Superintendent of Health of Franklin County, Louisburg, N. C.; Dr. J. R. McCracken, County Superintendent of Health of Haywood County, Waynesville, N. C., and Dr. A. H. Rose, County Superintendent of Health of Johnston County, Smithfield, N. C.

Adjournment for Dinner.

MONDAY, 2

12. The Whole-Time County Health Officer: Dr. J. S. Brown, President, North Carolina Health Officers' Association, Hendersonville, N. C.
13. Discussion: Opened by Dr. A. C. Reynolds, County Superintendent of Health of Gaston County, Parrott, County Superintendent of Health of Kinston, N. C.; Dr. C. Dalgin, County Superintendent of Health of Montgomery County, Troy, N. C.
14. What the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission Has Done for the State Board of Health: Dr. J. S. Brown, President of the State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C.
15. Discussion: Opened by Dr. R. C. Dalgin, County Superintendent of Health, Raleigh, N. C.; continued by Dr. L. N. Glendon, County Superintendent of Health, Yadkin County, N. C.; Dr. J. P. Health, County Superintendent of Health, Roxboro, N. C., and Dr. J. P. Health, County Superintendent of Health of Lee County, Sanford, N. C.
16. The Advantage of Combining Health Work: Dr. John Bynum, Winston-Salem, N. C.
17. Discussion: Opened by Dr. C. Dalgin, County Superintendent of Health, Raleigh, N. C.; continued by Dr. William S. Jordan, County Superintendent of Health of Cumberland County, Fayetteville, N. C.
18. How to Bring Indictments for Health Work: R. R. Williams, Representative of the General Assembly of 1911, Asheville, N. C.
19. Methods for Securing the Co-operation of the Public: Dr. T. M. Jordan, Health Officer, Fayetteville, N. C.
20. Discussion: Opened by Dr. C. Dalgin, County Superintendent of Health, Raleigh, N. C.; continued by Dr. J. S. Brown, County Superintendent of Health of Granville, N. C.

MONDAY, 8:

21. Education and Public Health: Dr. J. S. Brown, County Superintendent of Public Instruction, Hendersonville, N. C.
22. What the County Superintendent of Health Can Do: Prof. A. C. Reynolds, County Superintendent of Health of Buncombe County, Asheville, N. C.

ANNUAL MEETING

PROGRAM

NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION
ASHEVILLE, N. C., JUNE 17, 1912

ANNUAL SESSION

Monday, 9:30 a. m.
by President McBrayer.

J. S. Brown, County Superintendent of Health, Hendersonville, N. C.

Welcome, Dr. D. C. Absher, Health Officer, Asheville, N. C.

L. B. McBrayer, Health Officer, Asheville, N. C.

Report of the last Annual Meeting, Dr. W. S. Rankin, Secretary, North Carolina Health Officers' Association, Raleigh, N. C.

Secretary, Dr. W. S. Rankin, Secretary, North Carolina Health Officers' Association, Raleigh, N. C.

Dr. W. S. Rankin, Chairman, Raleigh, N. C.

Dr. W. A. McPhaul, Chairman, Lumberton, N. C.

Officers of health work done in their respective counties during the year, and of the work contemplated for the coming year. The counties will be called alphabetically.

County Health Work: Dr. G. Floyd Ross, Health Officer, Guilford County, Greensboro, N. C.

Dr. B. W. Page, County Superintendent of Health, Lumberton, N. C.; continued by Dr. J. R. McCracken, former Superintendent of Health of Lenoir County, Lenoir, N. C.

Dr. J. R. McCracken, former Superintendent of Health of Lenoir County, Lenoir, N. C.; Dr. J. R. McCracken, Health Officer, Lenoir County, Lenoir, N. C.

Dr. J. R. McCracken, Health Officer, Lenoir County, Lenoir, N. C.; Dr. J. R. McCracken, Health Officer, Lenoir County, Lenoir, N. C.

Dr. H. Rose, County Superintendent of Health, Smithfield, N. C.

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NORTH CAROLINA HEALTH OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION. 645

MONDAY, 2:30 p. m.

12. The Whole-Time County Health Officer: Dr. J. Howell Way, President, North Carolina State Board of Health, Waynesville, N. C.
13. Discussion: Opened by Dr. A. Bascom Croom, Maxton, N. C.; continued by Dr. L. N. Glenn, Vice-President of the North Carolina Health Officers' Association, and County Superintendent of Health of Gaston County, Gastonia, N. C.; Dr. Albert D. Parrott, County Superintendent of Health of Lenoir County, Kinston, N. C.; Dr. C. Daligny, County Superintendent of Health of Montgomery County, Troy, N. C., and Dr. D. J. Hill, County Superintendent of Health of Davidson County, Lexington, N. C.
14. What the Rockefeller Sanitary Commission Can Do to Build Up County Health Work: Dr. John A. Ferrel, Assistant Secretary of the State Board of Health for the Eradication of Hookworm Disease, Raleigh, N. C.
15. Discussion: Opened by Dr. R. H. Lewis, member State Board of Health, Raleigh, N. C.; continued by Colonel J. L. Ludlow, member State Board of Health, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Dr. W. A. Bradshier, County Superintendent of Health of Person County, Roxboro, N. C., and Dr. J. P. Monroe, County Superintendent of Health of Lee County, Sanford, N. C.
16. The Advantage of Combining Town and County Health Work: Dr. John Bynum, Winston-Salem, N. C.
17. Discussion: Opened by Dr. Charles O'H. Laughinghouse, member of the State Board of Health, Greenville, N. C.; continued by Dr. William S. Jordan, County Superintendent of Health of Cumberland County, Fayetteville, N. C.
18. How to Bring Indictments for Violation of Health Laws: Hon. R. R. Williams, Representative of Buncombe County, General Assembly of 1911, Asheville, N. C.
19. Methods for Securing the Co-operation of the Public in Health Work: Dr. T. M. Jordan, Health Officer, Raleigh, N. C.
20. Discussion: Opened by Dr. Charles T. Nesbitt, Health Officer, Wilmington, N. C.; continued by Dr. S. D. Booth, County Superintendent of Health of Granville County, Oxford, N. C.

MONDAY, 8:00 p. m.

21. Education and Public Health: Hon. J. Y. Joyner, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Raleigh, N. C.
22. What the County Superintendent of Schools Can Do for Public Health; Prof. A. C. Reynolds, County Superintendent of Schools of Buncombe County, Asheville, N. C.

23. Discussion of the two preceding addresses: Opened by Rev. George W. Lay, Rector of St. Mary's School, Raleigh, N. C.; continued by Mr. R. J. Tighe, Superintendent of Graded Schools, Asheville, N. C.
24. The Relation of the Church to Public Health: William Louis Poteat, LL.D., President of Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, N. C.
25. Election of Officers.

Adjourned Sine Die.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

J. S. BROWN, M.D., HENDERSONVILLE.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Fellow Health Officers:

Away back in the eighteenth century the vanguard of political freedom gathered together in the hamlet of Charlotte, and did something. More than a year later, on a memorable fourth of July, in Penn's great city of brotherly love, this call to the sons of liberty was ratified. Just a year ago in this same Charlotte, North Carolina's vanguard of Health Preservation—of Prevention of Disease—held its first organized meeting. Today we meet to ratify this auspicious and prophetic beginning and to press forward toward the accomplishment of great things for humankind. Prevention is the keynote of progress in health, and every chord in our harp must respond and sound in harmony with the call of prevention. It is most fitting that this most important meeting should be held in a coming city whose greatest mission is prevention. Here thousands find refuge from influences that depress and debilitate. The malarial parasite cannot enter here. The tubercle bacillus feels ill at ease. The vigor and vitality here instilled into the human system enables it to withstand more successfully the attacks of the enemies of mankind. Inhale our bracing air; imbibe our pure water; live and breathe and enjoy life, and feel for yourselves this wonderful preventing power.

This city has never been confined by gates. You can hardly tell where city ends and country begins. It is all wide open to you. The everlasting hills, those sublime heights overwhelming in grandeur, the beautiful valleys and limpid streams, the lakes, the fruitful fields and fragrant flowers, and pines and oaks and evergreens, all bid you welcome! and thrice welcome

MEETING
 addresses: Opened by Rev.
 ry's School, Raleigh, N. C.
 intendent of Graded Schools,
 blic Health: William Louis
 Forest College, Wake Forest,
 Dis.

comes from the sweet lips of hospitable matron and maid.
Our doors are all open to you, though you should have a care
to wear your raincoat when entering past yellow placards.

Take possession, and raise an Ebenezer that shall be remem-
bered throughout the ages.

RESPONSE TO ADDRESS OF WELCOME

Dr. W. S. Rankin, Secretary of the Association, in the
absence of Dr. D. C. Absher, who was to have responded to
the address of welcome made an impromptu response.