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Now we come to the third reason why we have had no serious epidemics, "the housing and personal care of the poorer classes." The Board of Health has an Inspector, whose duty it is to visit all houses in the city, report monthly on the condition of those in the district which he has visited, as regards their need of repair, the state of the yards, the closets and sewers, or whether too many people are living in these houses; and then the Board deals with the report. If certain houses are unfit in the judgment of the Inspector for human habitation, a committee of the Board is appointed to look into the matter and report on the conditions found, and the changes or improvements they deem necessary. The report if adopted is made note of by the Secretary, and the usual form of notice served on occupant and owner (see notice). If the conditions contained therein are not lived up to, then steps are taken to strictly enforce the same. In this way we protect the poorer classes, in that they are not compelled to live in tumble-down buildings, and, by causing windows to be put in rooms and doors cut, increase the amount of air entering these houses, and thereby improve the physical conditions, by not compelling these people to breathe over and over vitiated air. During my term of office on the Board of Health, several cases of this kind have been dealt with. Only a few weeks ago we found a colored family of eight persons living in two rooms, one about 12 by 10, the other 8 by 10. The larger room had two windows and two doors, the smaller room (which was the sleeping room) had no window and only one door, and that leading into the larger room. Now, how could you expect those people to be healthy I know, as a matter of fact, they were not, when they had no fresh air in their sleeping room? What did the Board do? They compelled the owner to repair the house, put a window in the smaller room, and in other ways improve the condition of these people. Another case occurred during this month, where twelve people were found living in three rooms. The plaster was off the walls, the floor covered with rags, on which some of the people slept, the roof leaky, the floors rotting away, and the air space far too small for the number of people. The Board served the usual notice, which was not obeyed, and now steps are to be taken to enforce the carrying out of the Board's request. Diphtheria occurred in this latter house about three years ago, and I am almost afraid that it would break out again, if the weather becomes very damp. I claim that by taking these active measures we are not only improving the condition of the people, but are impressing the citizens that the Board is active along sanitary lines.

Before our waterworks system was in good order, or our sewerage system so far advanced as at present, certain districts in the town were looked upon as being subject to outbreaks of typhoid fever or diphtheria. One section of the south side of the town, bounded by William, Park, Adelaide and Wade streets, seemed to favor the recurrence of typhoid fever year after year, and the reason of its recurrence, to my mind, is that the land was made or built up land. The situation was a low one, and earth off the streets or from house excavations was carted in to fill up the hollow; no sewers were in operation,