

Council Communications, No. 7395, 1904 (A156).

November 23, 1904

The City Clerk
City Hall

Dear Sir:

I wish to have the serious condition of offices in the neighbourhood of Spence Street brought to the attention of the Council. There is a most alarming epidemic of Typhoid fever on this street and I feel convinced is largely due to either carelessness or negligence on the part of the health officer in not preventing the filling in of a ravine with refuse of all kinds the stench from which has been & still is most offensive. The district is a poor one, and it has the appearance of suffering in this instance more for that reason than it would if the people living there were better off. There has been one death and at the present time there are several very dangerous cases. I have inquired into the question of water connection but it appears to make no difference as both houses with or without water connections suffer alike. The seriousness of this matter will be more fully understood when the facts are considered, and I am informed one complete household except the father is down with Typhoid, family a working one and the expense & suffering quietly stood by this family is most distressing. I refer to the McKenzies where there are 5 cases. They have no water connection but there are 3 cases at the Harveys where they have water connections. There are many other cases. I just know of a few by name Huggins 1 case, Smith 2 cases Booth 1 case Cozener 2 cases all of these are close to the ravine or creek. I understand this creek was filled in with refuse from the fire at Boyds bakery and the stench was so offensive as to make people feel ill who had to pass it. I am informed both Mr. Hossie and Mr. Anderson complained and some slight covering of earth was placed over the refuse but the stench is just as strong as ever. I hope the Council will give this matter their serious attention. I may say I have no interests in the district of any kind & I write this letter to try and help some very poor suffering people who I am convinced would never have had to stand the nuisance if they had been better off.

Yrs truly
F. Phillipps,
Address:
Fort Garry Courts.