

# WOOD GREEN ECHOES.

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RESIDENTS in Wood Green, particularly those living near the Moselle Brook, have much to thank Mr. County Councillor Bradshaw for his untiring energies to arcuse the Rivers Committee of the County Council to a sense of duty. Actuated only by a desire to benefit the district in which he has resided for over thirty years, Mr. Bradshaw has taken the matter up with a set determination not to rest or to leave a stone unturned until he has secured the desired object, namely, the culverting of the polluted stream, which is practically an open sewer.

IN July last the members of the Wood Green Tradesmen's Association passed a resolution, urging the necessity of culverting the Moselle, where it intersects the High Road. The resolution pointed out that the carrying out of this work, with a little extra cost, would provide a footway into Caxton Road, thus giving a direct route from the Market Place and Noel Park Estate to Wood Green Station (G.N.R.) and Alexandra Palace. It was the forwarding of a copy of this resolution to Mr. Bradshaw, with a request to move in the matter, that inspired our County Councillor for West-Wood Green to inquire into the circumstances of the case, and if his efforts do no more than create in Wood Green ratepayers a desire to join in common unity to endeavour to free themselves from the evils that exist in their midst, then they will not have been in vain.

PERSONALLY I hope the result will be much more far reaching than that, in fact that nothing short of the desired culverting will be the effect. That the brook in question is the home of bad smells and myriads of microbes and germs of disease, as well as being unsightly and a menace to the health of the locality, no one can deny. In weather, such as we have and are now experiencing, the stench arising from this filthy waterway is unbearable, and delay in culverting is assuredly increasing the danger of an outbreak of infection. In an exhaustive report of his investigations, prepared for and supplied to every member of the Rivers Committee of the County Council, Mr. Bradshaw clearly and intelligently defines the position of affairs.

WITH a view to showing the serious effect of leaving the brook open and in its present condition, he adds the testimony, not only of Dr. Connolly, the medical officer of health, but also of several other local medical practitioners, all of whom are agreed that the brook is a serious nuisance, and that a large proportion of the illness in the locality is attributable to the condition of the Moselle. The Medical Officer says: " . . . Although I can bring forward no striking or conclusive evidence to this effect, I am strongly of opinion that the present condition of the Moselle does exert an injurious influence on the health and comfort of those living in its immediate neighbourhood, and that the only efficacious remedy is to culvert the stream." Surely such testimony as this backed up by evidence of substantial medical men such as Drs. Foott and Stainland should have some effect.

IT seems that the Rivers Committee of the County Council are advised that the Middlesex County Council Act, of 1898, does not empower that body to contribute towards the cost of culverting, simply because the clause defines that the County Council may "abate or remove, or cause to be removed, or cause to be abated or removed, all impediments, obstructions and annoyances, and all nuisances and abuses whatsoever in any stream or on the banks or shores thereof." Of course, this does not say they can incur expenditure by culverting, but then the nuisance and annoyance exists, and if they can do nothing else, they can remove it. But culverting is "the only efficacious remedy," our Medical Officer says, and surely if the District Council approaches the Rivers Committee of the County Council in a proper spirit, some compromise can be effected. At any rate, County Councillor Bradshaw has done his share towards the desired end.

SUBJOINED to the circular letter, which he has caused to be forwarded to members of the Rivers Committee, is a tabulated statement, showing that ten persons, resident in Blenheim Grove, Caxton Road, Moselle Avenue and Gladstone Avenue, have all been, more or less, stricken with illness as the result of this stinking brook, remaining an open water course near their dwellings. All this goes to prove the urgency of dealing with the matter, and one can only hope that whether culverting be done by the County or District Council, or by an amicable arrangement between both, it will soon be accomplished, and that this serious menace to health will speedily be removed.

The ludicrous position in which Coun-