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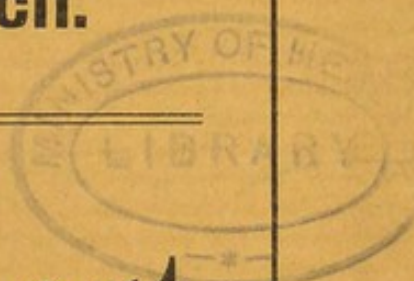


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COCKERMOUTH

Rural District Council.



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

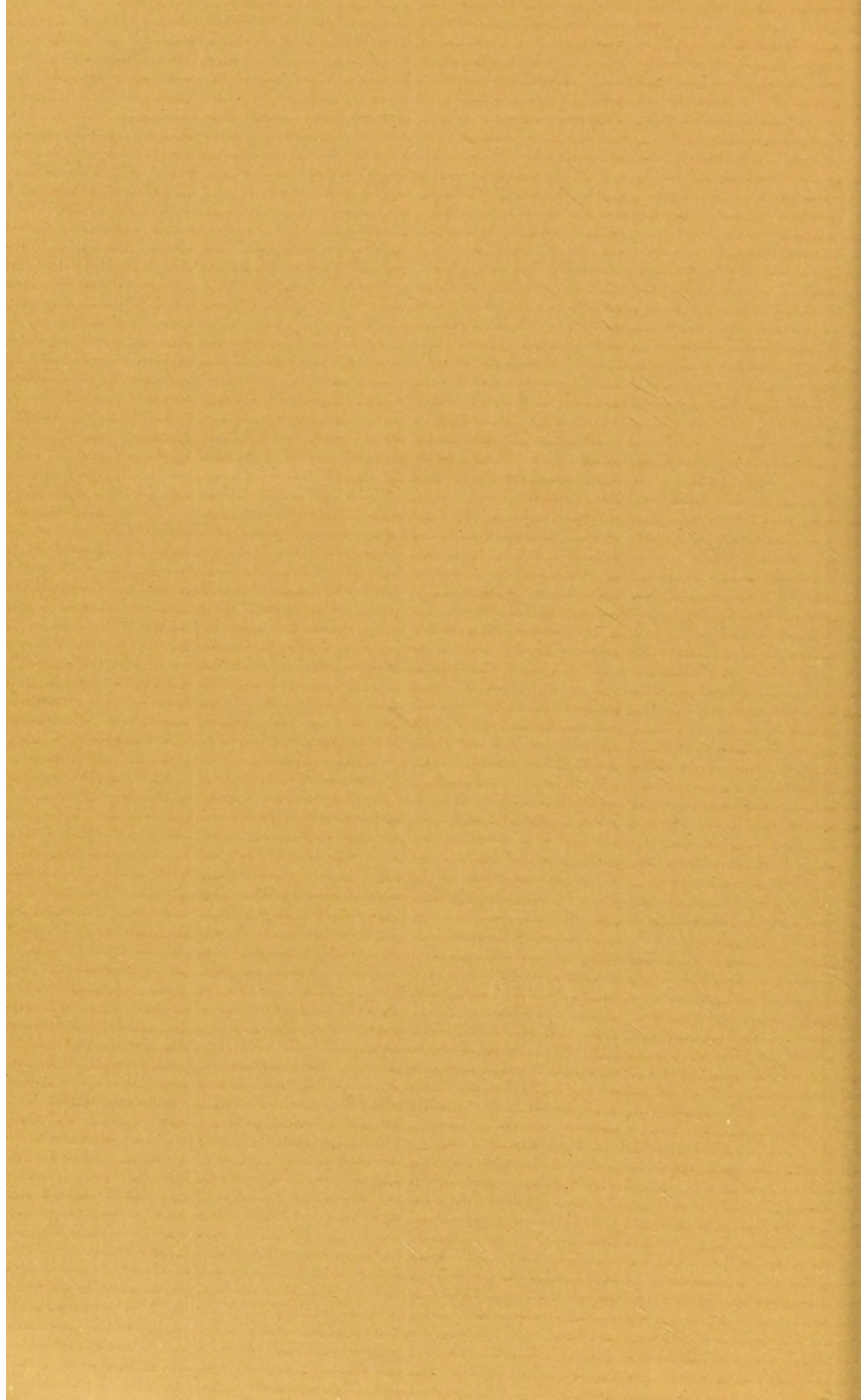
Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Together with a Summary of Work
of the Sanitary Inspectors.

COCKERMOUTH :
"TIMES" PRINTERS, SOUTH STREET.

1926.



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CONTENTS

	PAGE
Introduction	3
Rainfall	5
Births	8
Deaths	8
Infantile Mortality	9
Cancer	13
Senility	9
Zymotic Deaths	13
Pauperism	8
Water Supply	16
Drainage and Sewerage	19
Scavenging	23
Factories and Workshops	24
Milk Supply	25
Slaughterhouses	26
Anthrax	27
Bakehouses	27
Prevalence of Infectious Diseases	27
Tuberculosis	13—30
Control of Infectious Diseases	30
Nursing in the Home	15
Hospital Accommodation available	14
Legislation in force	15
Housing	33
Statistics of Housing Conditions	34
Summaries of Sanitary Inspectors	36, 37, 38

Cockermouth Rural District.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cockermouth Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,—

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1925. In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 648, dated 10th December, 1925, this constitutes a Survey Report, the full and detailed character of which includes the measure of progress and the extent and nature of changes in the area during the last five years in Public Health Administration.

My thanks are due to the Misses Fisher, Higham; E. W. Trench, Winscales; the Rev. E. C. Bennett, Camerton; the Rev. M. H. Bannister, Bassenthwaite; Messrs W. Irwin, Papcastle; H. Irwin, Dean; H. Swinburne, Crosthwaite. L. Holme Lewis, Engineer to Manchester Corporation Waterworks; and the British Rainfall Organisation, for their courtesy in supplying records of Rainfall.

I am, your obedient servant,

Charles A. Mason,

Medical Officer of Health.

1. General Statistics.

Area (acres), 158,113.464 (exclusive of area covered by water).

Population, 1925 (R.G. estimated), 23,130 ;

„ 1921 Census, 23,385.

Number of inhabited houses in 1921 (Census), 4,882.

„ „ „ in 1925 4,998.

Rateable value, £114,429.

Sum represented by a 1d rate, £476.

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M.	F.		
Births	{	Legitimate ...	422	210	212	} Birth Rate (R.G.)
		Illegitimate...	25	8	17	

Deaths ... 306 151 155 ... Death Rate (R.G.), 13.2.

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of,
Childbirth ... 5

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births :

Legitimate ... 82.9. Illegitimate ... 200.

Total, 89.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... 3

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... 9

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 8

Table showing RAINFALL in inches, in 1925, compiled from observers in various parts of the district.

Observation Station ...	Dean School	Derwent Lodge, Papcastle	Winscales House	Camerton Vicarage	Crosthwaite School, Keswick about 400 yards from the Cockermouth Rural District boundary.	Seathwaite, Borrowdale	Higham	Bye-Product Works, Flimby	Dale Head Hall, Thirlmere	Basson-thwaite Vicarage
Observer ...	H. Irwin, Esq.	W. Irwin, Esq.	Miss E. W. Trench.	Rev. E. C. Bennett	H. Swinburn, Esq.	British Rainfall Organisation	Miss Fisher.	W. Irwin, Esq.	L. Holme Lewis, Esq., Engineer to Manchester Corporation Water Works	Rev. M. H. Bannister
Diameter of Rain Gauge Funnel	5 inches	5 in.	5 in.	5 in.	5 in.	4 in.	5 in.	5 in.	6 in.	5 in.
Height of gauge above ground	11 in.	1 ft.	1 ft. 6 in.	1 ft.	1 ft.	9 in.	9 in.	1 ft.	15 in.	1 ft.
Height of gauge above sea level	365 ft.	200 ft.	440 ft.	200 ft.	254 ft.	422 ft.	500 ft.	50	620 ft.	350 ft.
1925.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.
January	3'55	3'33	2'21	2'60	6'54	13'70	3'96	2'64	10'5	4'31
February	4'69	4'35	3'39	3'91	7'29	16'60	6'22	3'30	11'5	6'15
March	1'94	2'01	1'28	1'13	2'16	4'70	2'46	1'09	2'7	2'27
April	4'45	3'22	2'82	3'21	6'59	16'00	5'12	2'89	9'0	5'31
May	6'99	4'62	5'43	4'81	6'33	14'60	4'26	4'38	8'5	4'51
June	'62	'52	'59	'25	'22	'46	'27	'24	'2	'31
July	2'04	1'60	1'57	1'73	2'18	3'70	1'64	1'15	1'7	1'82
August	2'85	2'58	3'58	3'10	4'21	11'38	3'11	2'91	7'0	3'10
September	4'45	3'83	3'69	3'40	5'04	9'20	4'65	3'83	5'6	4'47
October	6'05	4'50	4'94	5'46	6'95	16'30	5'20	5'47	11'6	5'51
November	2'68	2'06	2'21	1'74	2'49	4'70	1'95	} 6'28	3'0	2'46
December	3'71	3'77	2'94	3'27	6'22	12'60	4'39		8'1	4'85
Totals	44'05	36'39	34'65	34'61	56'22	123'94	43'23	34'18	79'4	45'07
Average 5 years	48'49	37'26	37'68	35'79	56'13 Av. 23 yrs	133'85	46'61	...	83'8	47'24

Cockermouth Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

The area of the district in statute acres (exclusive of area covered by water) is 158,113.464.

The district presents a great diversity of surface, as from its central position and area it commands the most magnificent scenery, both mountain and lake, of any in the County of Cumberland. It extends from Threlkeld Granite Quarries to the Solway, near Allonby, and from Dunmail Raise to Distington. The drainage of the district is mainly accomplished by means of the River Derwent and its tributaries, the Greta, Bloomer, Cocker, and Marron. The Derwent rises in Borrowdale and flows in a northerly direction into the southern end of Derwentwater, near Lodore. At Portinscale, Keswick, nearer the west, it leaves the lake and receives the water from the Greta (which has its source in Scales Tarn, lying at the foot of a perpendicular rock on Saddleback), and into which St. John's beck discharges after flowing from Lake Thirlmere through St. John's-in-the-Vale. Three miles north-west of Keswick the Derwent enters Bassenthwaite Lake, and after flowing through this extensive sheet of water leaves it at the opposite end near Ouse Bridge, where it continues its tortuous and picturesque course in a westerly and south-westerly direction to Isel to receive the water from a tributary (the Bloomer) draining the Bewaldeth district, after which it flows to Cockermouth, where it is joined by the Cocker, which drains the lakes of Buttermere, Crummock, and Loweswater, through the Vale of Lorton, afterwards flowing in a westerly direction for about five miles to take the water from the Marron, and to continue its journey to the sea, into which it discharges at Workington. Another river, the Ellen, which has its source in Overwater, partly forms the boundary on the north side between the Rural Districts of Cockermouth and Wigton, and eventually flows into the Solway at Maryport. Thus the River Derwent and its tributaries, the Greta and Bloomer (and we may add those streams which enter Derwentwater and Bassenthwaite Lake, e.g., Straddle Beck, Newlands Beck, Dash Beck) drain the eastern portion of the rural area. The Cocker and its tributaries, the Liza and Whitbeck, drain the southern portion of the area. The south-western portion is drained by the Marron and its tributary, Lostrigg Beck, and the north-eastern portion by the River Ellen.

GEOLOGY.

Beneath the red marl of the western district coal is found. Appertaining to the Whitehaven coalfield, some of the local seams extend for three or four miles under the sea. Collieries are distributed along the coast from Whitehaven to Maryport, and extend inwards to Aspatria, Brayton and Mealsgate. The chief coal mines in this district are located at Flimby, Broughton Moor, Great Clifton, Camerton, and Oughterside.

Limestone is abundant in many localities, notably:—Brigham, Pardshaw, Eaglesfield, Tallantire, Bothel, Gilcrux, and Blindcrake. Granite is found in large quantities at Threlkeld and Embleton. Slate of excellent quality is found in Borrowdale and at the extensive quarries high up on Honister Craggs at Buttermere.

CLIMATE.

The climate is variable, as in the mountainous localities it is often wet and piercingly cold, while the lowlands possess a mild temperature. The prevailing winds are from the south-west, and, being charged with moisture, discharge a heavy rainfall. In winter fierce gales often sweep across the district. A table showing the rainfall in various parts of the district is given on Page 5.

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's figures for the population of the district, estimated to the middle of 1925, is 23,130, on which the birth and death rates are based. This figure is 70 less than that for 1924.

(The yearly estimates of population provided by the Registrar General are based on the adjusted last Census figures after allowance for births, deaths, and migration).

It is worthy of note that the figures similarly given (early in 1922) for 1921 were 22,830, but the Census returns for 1921 (published in 1923) give 23,385, and though in the period 1921 to 1925 (both years included) there was a preponderance of 1,143 births over deaths, the Census figures—which must be accepted—and the Registrar-General's succeeding estimates show in the same period a decrease of 255.

CHIEF OCCUPATIONS OF INHABITANTS.

The chief occupations are Coal Mining and Agriculture. Some also work at Slate and Granite Quarries. Of late years several Coke Ovens and Bye-product Works have been established in the district, viz., at Great Clifton, Flimby, and Oughterside, where Tar, Benzol, Artificial Manures, etc., are obtained from the Coal. A certain number are employed in Forestry and in Saw-mills. Other industries include the following:—Tannery, Linen and Thread Mills, Brick Works, Limestone Quarries, Hair Washing, Blastfurnaces. Lead Mining, once a noted local industry, appears to be declining, as practically all the mines have closed down, but it is to be hoped not permanently.

Several coal mines have closed down permanently, while a number of others have been working irregularly for some time owing to trade depression.

PAUPERISM.

In the Cockermouth Rural District, which is included in the Cockermouth Union, the number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 786, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 29 of the population, as compared with 1 in 62 for 1924, 1 in 40 for 1923, and 1 in 36 for 1922.

41 paupers were inmates of the Cockermouth Union Institution, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 564 of the population, as compared with 1 in 504 for 1924, 1 in 340 for 1923, and 1 in 344 for 1922.

The numbers (1925) are detailed as follows:—

Sub-registration District.	Out-door Relief.		Indoor.
	Ordinary.	Unemployed.	
Cockermouth	86	378	11
Maryport	108	72	17
Workington	84	4	12
Keswick	48	6	1
Totals	326	460	41

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered in and belonging to the district in 1925 was 477 (218 males and 229 females). Of these 25 (8 males and 17 females) were illegitimate. The net birth rate is accordingly 19.3 per 1,000 of the population. The rate exceeds that for all England and Wales by 1.0, and that for all the Rural Districts of the County by 1.5.

Birth Rates, 1925—Cumberland	...	...	...	...	18.9
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	...	...	...	17.8
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	...	...	...	19.7
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	18.3
Cockermouth Rural District	...	...	...	...	19.3

The percentage of illegitimate births is approximately 5.7, as compared with 4.6 in 1924, 8.0 in 1923, 4.9 in 1922, and 6.6 in 1921.

The Birth Rates for the past 10 years in the Cockermouth Rural District were:—

Year —	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916
Rate —	19.3	21.5	21.6	22.6	26.5	30.8	21.7	23.3	22.4	25.1

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered as belonging to the district was 306 (i.e., after correcting for non-residents dying in the district and for those persons whose usual residence was in the district dying outside the district). This gives a death rate of 13.2 per 1,000 of the population. The rate exceeds that for all England and Wales by 1.0, and that for all the Rural Districts of the County by .8.

Death Rates, 1925—Cumberland	...	...	...	...	13.4
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	...	...	...	12.4
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	...	...	...	14.3
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	12.2
Cockermouth Rural District	...	...	...	...	13.2
Ditto, after correcting for age and sex distribution	...	...	...	...	11.9

The Comparative Mortality figure for this district is, approximately, 975; this implies that, after making allowance for age and sex distribution of the population, the number of living persons that in England and Wales in 1925 furnished 1,000 deaths, in Cockermouth Rural District actually furnished 975.

The Death Rates for the past 10 years in the Cockermouth Rural District were:—

Year — 1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916
Rate — 13.2	12.7	12.7	13.05	11.08	13.14	15.0	16.7	13.3	14.3

(For Causes of Death during the year see Table on Page 10.)

(For Comparison Table of Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality, see Page 11.)

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 40 deaths of infants under one year of age, which gives a death rate of 89 per 1,000 births, which shows an increase of 13 on last year's figure of 76 per 1,000 births. Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1925:—

Cumberland	...	...	...	...	85
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	...	...	...	71
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	...	...	...	95
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	75
Cockermouth Rural District	...	...	...	...	89

Five deaths occurred among illegitimate infants, so that the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate is 200 per 1,000 illegitimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of 82.9 per 1,000 legitimate births. These Rates were respectively nil and 79 for the previous year, 150 and 91 for 1923, 192 and 84 for 1922, and 225 and 88 for 1921.

The Infantile Mortality Rates for the past 10 years in the Cockermouth Rural District were:—

Year — 1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916
Rate — 89	76	96	90	97	102	120	105	114	102

The yearly average for the past 30 years is, approximately, 111.

SENILE DEATH RATE.

122 persons had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile Death Rate of 39.8 per cent. of the total deaths.

29 (24m., 5f.) persons died between the ages of 65 and 70 years.

26 (9m., 17f.) " " " " 70 " 75 "

35 (12m., 23f.) " " " " 75 " 80 "

19 (5m., 14f.) " " " " 80 " 85 "

9 (4m., 5f.) " " " " 85 " 90 "

2 (2m.) " " " " 90 " 95 "

2 persons (m. & f. respectively) died at 95 and 96 years of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Males	Females
ALL CAUSES				151	155
1	Typhoid (including Paratyphoid) Fever				
2	Small-pox				
3	Measles			2	1
4	Scarlet fever				1
5	Whooping-cough			5	4
6	Diphtheria				1
7	Influenza			6	6
8	Encephalitis Lethargica				
9	Meningococcal Meningitis				
10	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System			4	13
11	Other tuberculous diseases			2	4
12	Cancer, malignant disease			10	13
13	Rheumatic Fever				
14	Diabetes			1	1
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.			6	11
16	Heart Disease			15	18
17	Arterio-Sclerosis			5	1
18	Bronchitis			11	13
19	Pneumonia (all forms)			16	11
20	Other Respiratory diseases			5	3
21	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum			2	
22	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)			3	5
23	Appendicitis & Typhlitis			1	
24	Cirrhosis of liver			1	
25	Acute and Chronic Nephritis			3	2
26	Puerperal sepsis				
27	Parturition, apart from puerperal fever				5
28	Congenital Debility, Malformation, &c.			12	6
29	Suicide				
30	Other Deaths from Violence			10	1
31	Other defined diseases			30	35
32	Causes ill-defined or unknown			1	
Special Causes (included above)					
	Poliomyelitis				
	Polioencephalitis				
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age					
	Total			23	17
	Illegitimate			3	2
TOTAL BIRTHS				218	229
	Legitimate			210	212
	Illegitimate			8	17
Population (for Births and Deaths)				23130	

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality. During year 1925.

	Birth- Rate per 1000 total popula- tion	Annual Death-rate per 1000 population.							Rate per 1000 Births	Percentage of total deaths.			
		All Causes	7 Princi- pal zymotic dis- eases	Can- cer	Tuber- culosis (all forms)	Tuber- culosis (Pulmo- nary)	Influ- enza	Vio- lence		Total Deaths under 1 year	Causes of death certified by registered medical Practi- tioners.	Inquest Cases	Un- certified causes of death
England and Wales	..	12.2	0.6	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.32	0.47	75	92.1	6.9	1.0	
Cumberland	..	13.4							85				
Urban Districts	..	14.3	0.7	1.5	1.0	0.7			95				
Rural	..	12.4	0.4	1.3	0.8	0.6			71				
Cockermouth Rural District	19.3	13.2	0.95	0.99	0.99	0.73	0.51	0.47	89	93.14	5.55	1.30	

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
Measles ...										
Scarlet Fever ...										
Whooping Cough ...				1	1	1			3	5
Diphtheria ...										
Erysipelas ...										
Tubercular Meningitis ...										
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...										
Other Tubercular Diseases ...										
Meningitis (non-Tubercular) ...										
Convulsions ...	2				2	1	1			4
Bronchitis ...						1	1			2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...			1		1			2	1	4
Diarrhoea ...										
Gastritis and Gastro Enteritis ...	1				1	3	3			7
Syphilis ...										
Suffocation (overlying) ...										
Injury at Birth ...	2				2					2
Congenital Malformation ...				1	1					1
Premature Birth ...	8		2	1	11					11
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	1		1		2					2
Other Causes ...	1				1	1				2
All Causes (certified) ...	15		4	3	22	7	5	2	4	40

INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year there were 17 inquests (4 of which were held outside the district). Inquests within the district were also held in respect of 2 non-residents. 4 deaths were uncertified.

CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 23 cases, as compared with 28 in 1924, which corresponds to a death rate of .99 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 1.20 in 1924.

Approximately out of every 13 deaths of persons in this district one was due to cancer.

The number of deaths each year for the past 10 years was:—

Year —	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916
Deaths—	22	28	32	23	23	17	20	20	16	24

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The Zymotic Death Rate, or the death rate from the 7 principal zymotic diseases for 1925 is .95 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with .21 for 1924.

The following figures show the number of deaths from each disease:—

Zymotic Disease.	No. of Deaths.				
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	9
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1
Fever:—					
Typhus	...	...	...	...	—
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	—
Para-typhoid	...	...	...	...	—
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	8
Total	...	...	...	...	22

Table showing Zymotic Death Rates for past 10 years:—

Year —	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916
Rate —	.95	.21	.82	.47	.83	1.38	.92	.92	.95	.6

TUBERCULOSIS.

Vide also Page 30.

There were 23 deaths due to Tuberculosis:—

	Males.		Females.	
Respiratory System	...	...	4	13
Other Forms	...	...	2	4

Two of these were of non-notified cases (1 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary).

The total gives a Tuberculosis (all forms) Death Rate of .99 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with .56 for 1924, and .73 for 1923.

The Consumption (i.e., Pulmonary Tuberculosis) Death Rate is .73 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with last year's figure, .43.

The following table gives the New Cases and Mortality during 1925 :—

		NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...			1					
1—5	...				1				1
5—10	...			1	1			1	1
10—15	...	3	1						
15—20	...	2	2			1	3		1
20—25	...		3		1	1	2		1
25—35	...		4				2		
35—45	...	1	2				1		
45—55	...	1	2			2	3		
55—65	...					1	2		
65 & upwards	...								
Totals	...	7	14	2	3	5	13	1	4

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

TUBERCULOSIS.—The Blencathra Sanatorium, situated near Threlkeld, in the Penrith Rural District, just outside our boundary, is available for private cases or for those under the County Council's scheme. As a rule only early cases are admitted. No provision is made for advanced cases.

The County Council also has an arrangement whereby affected school children may be sent to Stanington Sanatorium, near Morpeth, Northumberland.

FEVER.—The Council's own Isolation Hospital,* situated at Broughton Moor, can accommodate 12 patients (vide Page 30).

SMALLPOX.—The Derwent Joint Smallpox Hospital† is situated within the district, between Seaton and Broughton Moor, and serves a number of urban and rural districts in the County.

For NON-INFECTIOUS SICK there is a hospital in each of the towns within or on the borders of the district, viz. :—In Workington, Maryport, Cockermouth, and Keswick, in which certain numbers of patients from the Rural District are treated. There is also available the hospital portion of the Cockermouth Union Institution.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN.

One Institution (Flimby Lodge) is situated within and two Children's Homes (Cockermouth and Maryport) without the district, receiving destitute children from this area. These are maintained by the Cockermouth Board of Guardians.

* Medical Superintendent being the Medical Officer of Health.

† Medical Superintendent being the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Workington.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL.—The Cumberland Nursing Association provides thirteen District Nurses, who are also midwives, and the County Council one Health Visitor for work in this district.

(b) FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.—Generally speaking, no special nursing facilities are provided by this Council, but on rare occasions nursing or home help has been obtained in certain instances.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) INFECTIOUS CASES.—The Rural District Council has a Horse Ambulance kept at the Fever Hospital. This ambulance is unsuitable for removing cases at long distances.

(b) NON-INFECTIOUS CASES.—The Board of Guardians have a Horse Ambulance kept at the Union Institution, Cockermouth, for infirm patients.

(c) ACCIDENT CASES.—The Coal Owners' Association have a well-equipped Motor Ambulance and Rescue Car kept at Brigham, used solely for accidents in mines.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries and School Clinics are available at Maryport and Cockermouth and a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in the former town. These are provided by the County Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

The staff, in addition to the Medical Officer of Health, consists of Mr. J. W. Jackson and Mr. G. Nelson, who are both Sanitary and Housing Inspectors. Each of them has the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and Mr. Nelson also holds a special certificate of the London City Guilds for Sanitation and Plumbing Work. The work of the Sanitary and Water Engineer, Mr. A. Johnson, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., and that of the temporary Housing Surveyor, Mr. J. B. Wilson, A.M.I.C.E. (retired Sanitary and Water Engineer), is also to some extent connected with this department.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

The following Schedule is given :—

In force after
adoption.

Bye-laws :—

Slaughter-houses (revised, with addition of clause 9b relating to use of Humane Killer)	...	1924
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops (revised)	...	1915
New Streets and Buildings (revised)	...	1923
Pleasure Boats and Vessels	...	1921

Local Orders and General Adoptive Acts :—

Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889	...	1894
" " Prevention Act, 1890	...	1904
Notification of Births Act, 1907	...	1914

Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907 :—

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|
| (a) Sections 25, 30 and 32 comprised in Part II. Part III., other than Sections 53, 58, and 60 of the said Act shall be in force in the several contributory places within the Rural District of Cockermouth ; | ... | ... | 1921 |
| (b) Sections 39, 40, 41, and 42, comprised in part Part III. of the said Act shall be in force in the contributory places of Above Derwent, Bassenthwaite, Brigham, Broughton Moor, Clifton Great, Crosscanonby, Dovenby, Flimby, Oughterside and Allerby, and Seaton | ... | | do. |
| (c) Section 47, comprised in Part III. of the said Act shall be in force in the contributory places of Broughton, Clifton Great, Flimby & Seaton | | | do. |
| (d) Section 94, comprised in Part X. | ... | | 1923 |

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.**WATER SUPPLY.**

The greater part of the district, including the more populous areas, are well supplied with water. Over 16,000 of the population are supplied from public supplies (constant), with good analyses.

The three main sources of supply are :—Crummock Lake, supplying over 8,000 persons ; the River Derwent, by the Maryport Scheme, supplying over 5,000 persons ; Overwater, by Aspatria Water Board, supplying over 1,500 persons.

The public supplies in Above Derwent, in Branthwaite and Dean, in Tallantire, in Wythop and Setmurthy, supply considerably over 1,600 persons.

The sources of supply throughout the district are scheduled as follows :—

PARISH.	SOURCE.
Brigham, Broughton, Broughton Moor, Camerton, Great Clifton, Little Clifton, Ribton, Greysouthen, Stainburn, and Seaton...	Crummock Main.
Papecastle	Crummock main and Maryport main.
Lorton	Wells and streams and part Crummock main.
Workington Rural	Wells and springs and part Crummock main.
Dearham and Dovenby	Maryport main.
Flimby	Maryport main and a small portion from Crummock main.
Oughterside and Allerby	Overwater main.
Crosscanonby	Overwater main.
Above Derwent	Part from Keswick main, part from private reservoirs on Whinlatter, part from Braithwaite reservoir, springs and wells.

Castlerigg, St. John's, & Wythburn	...	Springs and fell streams.
Under-Skiddaw	...	Springs and fell streams.
Skiddaw	...	Spring.
Isel Old Park, Blindcrake, Isel and Redmain, Bridekirk, Bracken-thwaite, and Loweswater	...	Springs and wells.
Buttermere	...	Fell streams.
Plumbland, and Gilerux	...	Springs, wells & field gutters.
Bothel and Threapland	...	Bothel—Springs. Threapland—Popple Spring (with Ram).
Bassenthwaite	...	The Dash and Chapel Becks, wells and brooks.
Embleton	...	Springs, wells and brook.
Wythop	...	Springs, wells and brook, and public main from Sale Fell.
Bewaldeth and Snittlegarth	...	Springs, wells and brook.
Mosser, Blindbothel, Winscales, and Whinfell	...	Wells
Sunderland	...	Stream.
Tallantire	...	Spring (and reservoir) on Tallantire Hill.
Borrowdale	...	River Derwent, brooks, private mains from mountain springs.
Dean (including Branthwaite)	...	Main from spring (with ram).
Eaglesfield	...	Spring in centre of village.
Setmurthy	...	Wells, public main from Sale Fell, & Bassenthwaite Lake.

In the above schedule are a number of private supplies of good quality, taken from springs up on the fells and from rivulets beyond danger of pollution, e.g., Threlkeld, St. John's, Castlerigg, Wythburn, Underskiddaw (including Applethwaite), and Borrowdale (including Seathwaite, Seatoller, Rosthwaite and Grange).

The Crummock Lake and Overwater supplies are both of excellent quality. The latter supply to the villages of Allerby, Oughterside, Crosby Villa, and Crosby, which previously was inadequate, has now been remedied by the erection of a water tower at Prospect. A scheme is under consideration for supplying water to Plumbland from Overwater also (via main from Aspatria). This scheme should be a joint one with the Parishes of Gilcrux and Bothel, so that Gilcrux—including Greengill (*vide post*), etc.—and Threapland (which is in the parish of Bothel) would also have a safe and sufficient water supply. The existing supplies in these areas are far from satisfactory.

The Derwent supply, taken from the Mill-race at the Goat, Cockermouth continues to be ample, but though analyses in the past were good, recent analysis showed necessity for a little more efficient filtration, which has received attention by the Maryport Water Board. It must be remembered that this river is polluted by drainage from several hamlets during its course, but the chief source of pollution appears to be the effluent from the Keswick Urban District sewage works, which on my visits has been distinctly bad.

A number of districts have defective water supplies, many definitely polluted, some liable to pollution, and others inadequate (including some polluted), e.g.:—Deanscales, Beehive, Pardshaw

and Pardshaw Hall, Bridekirk, Eaglesfield, Lorton, Embleton, Gilcrux, Plumbland, Threapland, Bothel, the East end of Broughton Moor, and Mountain View, Borrowdale (vide post), Flimby Brow, and Bassenthwaite.

Good quality supplies could readily be obtained if small schemes were introduced in parishes such as Sunderland, Lorton, and Embleton.

The remedy for Plumbland (including Arkleby and Parsonby) and Gilcrux has been mentioned above; as regards Greengill (in the parish of the latter), householders here ordinarily obtain their supply from a roadside trough, which receives field drainage only, and during the summer months, when the trough is dry, water has to be conveyed by cart from Gilcrux village.

The East end of Broughton Moor (8 houses) still has to be supplied by water-cart from Broughton Moor proper; the cost of extending the main to these properties is apparently prohibitive at present.

Mountain View (8 houses), Borrowdale, obtain their water from the beck, which is contaminated by drainage from Seatoller. It is contemplated that a fresh supply be obtained from a spring in the near vicinity. Similarly at Grange, a few houses are supplied from the River Derwent, and should be linked up with the scheme supplying the rest of this hamlet.

The supply to the houses on The Brow, Flimby, has always been intermittent, but the insufficiency has been markedly pronounced during the year under review.

Bassenthwaite.—The chief sources of supply are the Dash and Chapel Becks. Both are polluted supplies. The village proper is supplied by the former, whilst the School and the houses near the Chapel are supplied by the latter. From both streams the inhabitants have to carry the water. The question of a proper piped supply is one which has several times engaged the attention of the Council, but local opposition has prevailed, the chief objections being:—

- 1 An erroneous idea that there was no pollution; and
- 2 Cost.

It cannot be questioned that where water is obtained from a stream to which cattle, fowl, etc., have free access, pollution is always more or less present. This being so and the fact that householders have the inconvenience of carrying water—a considerable distance in some cases—it is obvious that the matter should be radically dealt with.

During the year a scheme was prepared to include the village, the Chapel area, and several houses at Castle Inn (which have an inadequate supply), and submitted to the Parish Council, but it was rejected by the latter on account of cost.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There is considerable amount of pollution of the streams of the district, but the danger caused by this is lessened to some extent by the large volume of water in the rivers and the rapid flow.

The Derwent, the Cocker, the Marron, the Greta, their tributaries, and the Ellen, are all polluted.

The nature of the pollution includes farmstead drainage, sheep dipping, hair washings, sheep skin washings, slops, and W.C. drainage, and effluents from Collieries, Bye-product Works, and Sewage Works.

The Cockermouth Urban District Council have recently modernised their Sewage Outfall Works, which are within this district, the system of land irrigation having been superseded by one of biological purification in which there are settling tanks, filter beds with sprinklers, sludge beds, etc.; working of the new method commenced in 1925, and the effluent has been satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The following schedule shows the methods of drainage and sewerage in the principal parts of the various parishes:—

PARISH.			METHOD.
Seaton	...	...	Public sewer, with outlet to sea.
Flimby	...	...	Public sewer, with "septic" tanks and filter.
Broughton	...	...	
Great Clifton	...	...	" " " " "
Little Clifton	...	...	" " " " "
Broughton Moor	{	Broughton Moor	" " " " "
		Village	" " " " "
	{	Sunnyslack	Drained to gutter.
Bassenthwaite		...	Public sewer, with settling tanks and irrigation.
Dovenby	...	...	" " " " "
Brigham	{	Brigham Village	" " " " "
		Broughton Cross	Drained to brook.
Bewaldeth	...	...	" " " " "
Sunderland	...	...	Private drains to cesspools & brooks.
Tallantire	...	...	Part sewered to tank, part drained to gutters.
Underskiddaw	...	...	Private drains to cesspools, gutters, and brooks.
Skiddaw	...	...	Private drain to gutter.
Plumbland	...	...	Drained to cesspools, gutters & brooks.
Dearham	...	...	Drained to gutters.
Camerton	...	...	Drained to gutters and brook.
Bridekirk	...	...	Drained to brook (including effluents from private cesspools, etc.)
Crosscanonby	{	Crosby Villa & part Crosby	Public sewer, with septic tank and filters.
		Birkby and part Crosby	Public sewer, with tanks & irrigation.
Castlerigg, St. Wythburn	John's	and	Private drains and cesspools, except the new houses on Keswick Road, which join Keswick main sewer.
Bothel	...	...	Drained to brook.
Threapland	...	...	Public sewer to tank and filter.
Blinderake	...	...	Drained to brook.
Isel and Redmain	...	...	Private drains to cesspools & brooks.
Gilerux	...	...	Part sewered to gutter, part private drains to cesspools and gutters.
Isel Old Park	...	...	Private drains to cesspools, gutters and land irrigation.

Allerby and Oughterside	{	Allerby ...	Part public sewer to irrigation and part to gutter.
		Oughterside, Prospect and West Moor End	Public sewer to septic tanks & filters.
Eaglesfield ...		...	Drained to gutter.
Dean ...		...	Private drains to cesspools & brook.
Deanscales		...	Private drains to River Marron and Black Beck.
Ullock		...	Private drains to River Marron and cesspools.
Branthwaite		...	Private drains to gutters & irrigation.
Pardshaw & Pardshaw Hall		...	Private drains to cesspools & gutters.
Brackenthwaite		...	Private drains to cesspools & gutters.
Blindbothel		...	Private drains to cesspools, gutters and brooks.
Embleton ...		...	Private drains to cesspools, gutters and brooks.
Wythop ...		...	Private drains to "brook."
Mosser ...		...	Private drains to cesspools & gutters.
Above Derwent	{	Thornthwaite	Part "public" sewer to settling tank and irrigation & private drains to cesspools.
		Braithwaite	Part public sewer to settling tank and irrigation and part private drains to cesspools and gutters.
		Newlands	Drained to River Derwent & cesspools.
Borrowdale	{	Portinscale	Private drains to River Derwent, cesspools and irrigation.
		Grange	Private drains to River Derwent, cesspools and gutter.
		Rosthwaite	Private drains to cesspools, gutters and brook.
Buttermere		...	Private drains to cesspools, gutters and irrigation.
Loweswater		...	Private drains to irrigation & brooks.
Winscales ...		...	Drained to cesspools, brooks and irrigation.
Ribton ...		...	Drained to cesspools, brooks and gutters.
Whinfell ...		...	Part public sewer joining Workington main sewer to sea, and part to cesspools and gutters.
Lorton ...		...	Part public sewer to River Derwent and part to cesspools.
Greysouthen		...	Public sewer to septic tank and filter.
Workington Rural		...	Part drained to Derwent, and part to cesspools.
Papecastle ...		...	Part drained to brook, part to cesspools, and part private drain joining Workington main sewer to sea.
Belle Vue		...	Private drains to cesspools & gutters.
Goat ...		...	Public sewer to septic tank & filter.
Stainburn ...		...	Private drains to cesspools & gutters.
Setmurthy ...		...	Public sewer to septic tank & filter.
Dubwath		...	

GREYSOUTHEN AND BRIGHAM.—Although plans were prepared and a Public Inquiry was held during the year regarding the sewerage of Greysouthen and Broughton Cross (in Brigham parish), the work in connection with these schemes has not yet commenced. In both instances a modern system of sewerage is

needed, and particularly so in the latter, where midden privies adjoin pantries, liquid from the middens leaks through on to the surface of a back lane, and slop drainage discharges into a water-course, creating a nuisance.

ALLERBY.—New outfall works required.

ABOVE DERWENT.—At Braithwaite a sub-committee in June met the Parish Council to discuss the question of providing modern outfall works and the extension of the main sewer to Spring Bank houses; the matter is still sub judice at the time of writing.

At High Portinscale the two existing outfall works are also unsatisfactory, while at Low Portinscale the drainage discharges into gutters and cesspools. I would again point out that Portinscale and Braithwaite are increasing residential areas, and proper systems of sewerage with modern outfall works are necessary in both places.

WEST END OF CROSBY AND BIRKBY.—Each has outfall works that are unsatisfactory. Modern outfall works are necessary, and I would suggest that the Crosby sewer be extended and joined to the Birkby sewer, so that new outfall works would then be required at Birkby only.

DEARHAM.—In 1914 an Inspector of the then Local Government Board reported that this village required a proper system of sewers with outfall works, and the Council was urged to adopt a suitable scheme at an early date. I understand a scheme was considered, but owing to excessive cost and local industrial depression it was not proceeded with, and the sanitary conditions therefore remain much the same.

PAPCASTLE.—Outfall works are required for Papcastle for the treatment of the sewage, which at present discharges direct into the River Derwent.

The drainage of The Goat also discharges into the River Derwent. The sanitary arrangements here for some 70 or more houses can only be described as bad. These houses have privies and middens which, in many instances, are within very few feet of the dwellings and in some cases actually adjoin them. A proper sewerage system is needed for this area.

It appears to me to be well worth while for the Council to consider making Outfall Works which will serve both Papcastle and The Goat, if practicable.

BLINDCRANE.—Slop and farm drainage discharges into a water-course running into the Derwent about 4 miles above the intake of the Maryport Water Supply; a small sewerage system is needed for this village.

STAINBURN.—The major portion of the drainage of this village discharges into a watercourse; the Tannery and adjoining cottages are connected to the Workington sewer, whilst a number of houses (including those recently erected) have cesspools. A comprehensive sewerage system should be considered.

Several hamlets or portions of parishes lack proper sewerage systems, and in many cases small schemes would materially improve the conditions in this respect, e.g., at Branthwaite,

Sunderland, Applethwaite, Pardshaw and Pardshaw Hall, Embleton, Camerton, Deanscales, Buttermere, Rosthwaite, and Grange.

Extensions of sewers have been made at Braithwaite (for new houses on Newlands Road), at Oughterside and Flimby (for the new Council houses), and at Threapland.

A new sewer was laid for the new houses on Penrith Road, near Keswick, and connected to the Keswick main sewer.

At TALLANTIRE, where the sewerage from the greater part of the village used to discharge into a gutter and pollute a field water supply, a tank has been constructed on an adjoining site, the effluent from which has been diverted into a fresh course.

Drainage connections and closet conversions at Chapel Brow, Oughterside and Prospect are now complete, and considerable progress has been made at Crosby; progress in this respect is slow at Great and Little Broughton and Broughton Moor.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Description of Sanitary Conveniences in the following Sewered Villages and Hamlets which have efficient water supplies:—

Name.	Water Closets.	Pail Privies.	Midden Privies
Allerby ..	8	11	4
Oughterside (including Prospect and West Moor End)	80	1	3
Flimby ..	399	6	17
Broughton Moor ..	66	36	17
Crosby ..	67	21	9
Crosby Villa ..	49	—	—
Seaton ..	384	7	10
Brigham ..	107	15	34
Little Clifton ..	82	2	5
Great Clifton ...	179	4	4
Setmurthy ..	21	17	10
Papcastle ..	73	—	1
Belle Vue ..	13	—	2
Dovenby ..	6	19	7
Workington Rural ..	26	—	3
Braithwaite ..	84	4	5
Great Broughton ..	108	12	34
Little Broughton ..	29	34	9

SCHOOLS.

SANITARY CONDITION AND WATER SUPPLY.—There are 35 public elementary schools (including those with Infants, Mixed, &c., departments) in the Cockermouth Rural District.

Only 13 schools have water-closets, viz.:—Seaton, Flimby, Great Clifton Infants, Greysouthen, Dovenby, Braithwaite, Oughterside, Dean, Broughton Moor, Broughton, Brigham, Chapel Brow, and Crosby. The five last-named had installations provided during the last five years (Chapel Brow, 1925). The closets at Greysouthen are of bad type and require altering.

The remaining 22 schools have either pail or midden privies, viz.:—Camerton, Dearham, Gilcrux, Plumbland, Stainburn, Bassenthwaite, Bothel, Sunderland, Setmurthy, Isel, Embleton and Wythop, Lorton, Loweswater, Buttermere, Eaglesfield and Paddle, Rosthwaite, Grange, Naddle, Threlkeld Quarry, Wythburn, Legburthwaite, and Newlands.

All the schools are more or less adequately drained, some connected with public sewers, some having cesspools, while others are drained into gutters, streams, or on to land.

17 schools are supplied with water from public schemes, viz.:—Lorton, Brigham, Greysouthen, Chapel Brow, Great Clifton Infants, Stainburn, Seaton, Camerton, Broughton, and Broughton Moor, from the Crummock Water Scheme; Oughterside and Crosby, from the Overwater Scheme; Dovenby, Dearham, and Flimby, from the Maryport Service (Derwent Scheme); Braithwaite and Dean, from schemes for those areas respectively.

Threlkeld Quarry and Grange Schools are supplied from private company schemes for the respective areas.

Embleton and Wythop, Eaglesfield and Paddle, and Setmurthy schools have good private supplies piped from local springs.

The water supply to the remaining schools is obtained from wells or streams in close proximity to them, the water having to be carried by hand; included in these are Plumbland and Isel schools, whose supplies are unsatisfactory.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The Council have contracted for the removal of ashes and house refuse, and the cleansing of privy middens for the past five years or more in the following villages:—Flimby, Great Clifton, Little Clifton, Seaton, Broughton Moor, Great Broughton, Little Broughton, The Goat, Oughterside, and part of Brigham.

An order was obtained (in 1924) for Public Scavenging in Dearham, but as a suitable refuse tip has not yet been secured the order has not been put into operation. The private scavenging of this village has been unsatisfactory for many years, and there is no question that public scavenging is the only proper remedy.

In the villages above mentioned, where dust, etc., removal, is contracted for by the Council, a total of 4,798 cartloads have been removed at a cost of £488 15s 11d. This cost covers rents of tips, wheeling out, etc., and shows a reduction on the previous year of £19 5s 3d.

The following table gives the number of loads removed and the inclusive cost in the respective parishes in 1925, together with comparative figures for 1921:—

Parish.	Loads removed.	1925.			Loads removed.	1921.		
		Total cost.				Total cost.		
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Brigham	207	32	5	8	235	45	16	0
Little Clifton	282	42	13	0	805	104	18	0
Broughton	565	57	16	0	1553	276	11	6
Goat	121	36	6	0	192	28	0	0
Great Clifton	784	72	10	6	576	130	0	6
Oughterside	200	22	0	0	242	20	0	0
Broughton Moor	700	38	8	0	880	110	0	0
Flimby	1022	114	15	9	1181	189	16	6
Seaton	917	72	1	0	661	181	3	0
Totals	4798	488	15	11	6325	1086	5	6

This table shows a marked contrast in the costs of removal of refuse between the two years under review. In 1921 the total cost was £1,086, as compared with £488 in 1925. The difference is due to two factors: firstly, general reductions, and, secondly, the conversions of privies into the water-carriage system. In those villages where new sewerage systems have been installed, and where much wheeling out, &c., from privy ashpits was previously necessary, the reduction in cost due to conversions is approximately 40 per cent., so that conversions from the conservancy to the water-carriage system has its economic value, as well as that of improved sanitation.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The summaries of the two Sanitary Inspectors will be found at the end of this Report.

The work during the past year has been rendered more difficult by the serious illness of Mr J. W. Jackson, which entailed a six months's absence, his work being carried out as far as possible by Mr G. Nelson. I am glad that Mr Jackson is again with us.

I have again to place on record their co-operation and friendly help both during the year and in the framing of this Report.

Public Health law is becoming more and more stringent, and each year fresh legislation is coming into force, with the result that the duties involved in the work of a Public Health department are steadily increasing, and in a wide area like this the travelling entailed is a big item.

In the villages where public sewers have been laid the drainage of 110 houses have been connected and 75 water closets installed in place of pail and midden privies.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.—There are 129 on the register, 4 of which were registered during the year. 79 inspections were made—including those by Sanitary Inspectors—and no serious defects were found.

Premises.	Number.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	31	15	0	0
Workshops ditto ...	64	44	0	0
Workplaces (other than Out-workers' premises) ...	34	20	0	0
Total ...	129	79	0	0

Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 126 registered milk-sellers in the district:—43 producers (wholesale), 79 producers and retailers, and 4 retail purveyors only.

During the year there were 5 newly registered milk-sellers, whilst 8 previously registered have ceased to sell milk.

The following table generalises the condition of the cowsheds in 1925 as compared with that in 1921.

	1925.			1921.		
	Good.	Fair.	Bad.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.
Totals ...	84	24	14	59	34	16
Percentages (approx.) ...	69	20	11	61	30	18

222 inspections were made; 6 cowsheds had structural improvements carried out. 2 new cowsheds were built.

It is pleasing to record that in order to try and meet more modern and hygienic requirements one milk-producer has adopted the system of bottling milk. Such an enterprise should set a good example in this district.

The fact that milk is such an important article of food and that infants and young children depend chiefly on the same is a sufficient reason for so often advocating an advance in the business of milk production and distribution. It would be difficult to find a better method of milk distribution than by the "Bottled System," and provided that the following principles relating to the production and distribution of milk generally are carried out the consuming public may be sure they are buying a safe article.

To have a pure, wholesome milk—i.e., free from contamination and disease—it is necessary first to ensure the cow herself is clean and healthy. Before each milking the flanks, tails, belly portion immediately in front of the udder, and finally the udders should be washed thoroughly and dried with a clean cloth.

The first drops of milk from each udder should be rejected in order to remove the germs which collect in the openings of the teats between each milking.

The floor where the cow stands to be milked should be free from dirt and dust, as should be the byre generally.

The milker should put on a clean milking overall and wash his hands and arms before commencing to milk.

The milker's stool should be kept clean, and have a handle so placed that there is little likelihood of it being contaminated.

The milk should be drawn into a pail having a domed top, and, better, with clean filter cloth inside.

The milk should then be at once cooled, and, if the bottling system is practised, should be bottled direct from the cooler, and the bottles hermetically sealed with sterilised seal; where bottling is not done the cooled milk should be received into proper receptacles ready for distribution.

The cooling apparatus should be kept scrupulously clean in an adjoining dairy. Bottles should be efficiently sterilised before filling. Indeed, all vessels, cloths, etc., used in connection with milk should be sterilised.

I regret that up to the present very few milk-sellers in this district have paid due regard to the above methods in their entirety.

The subject of Tuberculosis in Cattle and Tubercular Milk is one which has been receiving the attention of the Ministry of Health for some time, and we now have three important additions to the law relating to it.

I. The Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, ensures that no person suffering from Tuberculosis of the respiratory tract shall enter upon any employment or occupation in connection with a dairy which would involve the milking of cows, the treatment of milk, or the handling of vessels used for containing milk.

II. The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, which came into operation on 1st September, 1925, provides, inter alia, for the elimination of milch cows affected with Tuberculosis.

III. The Tuberculosis Order of 1925 provides for the destruction of Tubercular Cattle, with compensation allowance.

No milk under "Special Designation" is produced in this district other than that of Storms Dairy Co., Ltd., which company, I am pleased to report, has carried out still further extensions and improvements.

The Milk and Cream Regulations and the Food and Drugs Acts are administered in this district by the County Council. There was one milk prosecution and conviction under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts for milk being below standard.

MEAT.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There are no public slaughter-houses in the district, but the following table shows the number of private slaughter-houses:—

		In 1920.		In Jan., 1925.		In Dec. 1925.
Registered	...	15	...	11	...	10
Licensed	...	6	...	16	...	16
		—		—		—
Total	...	21	...	27	...	26
		—		—		—

The conditions prevailing at these may be classed as follows:—
Good, 21; Fair, 4; Bad, 1.

165 inspections were made. One new slaughter-house was built, for which plans were passed by the Council; whilst one (at Embleton) is in course of erection.

Approximately 4,458lbs. of beef were condemned and destroyed (buried) as unfit for human consumption, owing to Tubercular Disease. All were voluntarily surrendered.

The new Rural District Councils (Slaughter-Houses) Order and Public Health (Meat) Regulations (both dated December 20th, 1924) came into force on January 1st, 1925, and April 1st, 1925, respectively, and have already proved their value in facilitating a closer supervision of meat for human food.

ANTHRAX.—6 suspected cases of this disease were notified under the Anthrax Order, 1910. Two of these proved to be Anthrax. In each case the necessary precautionary measures were taken by the Local Authority concerned, and there was no further spread of the disease.

BAKEHOUSES.—There are 26 registered bakehouses in the district, and all but three are domestic. All were in a cleanly condition when inspected.

Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1925, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, Pneumonia, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Chickenpox, was 208, as compared with 267 for 1924, 176 for 1923, 99 for 1922, and 131 for 1921.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1925

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total deaths
Diphtheria	7	0	0
Scarlet Fever	125	79	0
Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid)	1	1	0
Puerperal Fever	2	0	0
Pneumonia	19	0	7
Erysipelas	8	0	0
Chicken-pox	45	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	0
Tuberculosis :—			
A Pulmonary	Males 7	5 (San.)	1 (notified 1925)
	Females 14	6 „	6 „
	Total 21	11 „	7 „
B Non-Pulmonary	Males 2	0 (Hosp.)	0
	Females 3	0 „	0
	Total 5	0 „	0

Table showing monthly incidence of Notifiable diseases, 1925 :—

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Ju'e	J'ly	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Diphtheria	...		2	1		1	1		1			1	7
Scarlet Fever	...	14	3	5	12	9	6	20	15	5	16	8	125
Enteric Fever	...											1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...									1			1
Pneumonia	...		4	2	1	3	2		2	1		3	19
Erysipelas	...	1			1				1	2		3	8
Chicken-pox	...	2	1	2	4	18	8	1	1	2	1	3	45
Puerperal Fever	...						1			1		1	2
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	4	4	1		1	1	3	1		3	2	1	21
„ (other forms)		1					1			1		2	5

The incidence was again high, Scarlet Fever and Chickenpox being responsible for 132 of the notifications. It is important that the latter disease should be taken notice of, so that each notified case can be verified—a system which serves a check to possible error in regard to diagnosis of Smallpox.

The district has been free from Smallpox during 1925.

Diphtheria notifications numbered 7 (vide incidence table), a fatal termination occurring in one case (Crosby). The case rate per 1,000 of the population was .3, as compared with .9 for the previous year, 1.3 for 1923, .6 for 1922, and 1.2 for 1921.

There were 125 Scarlet Fever notifications—more than double the number of the preceding year. This disease was again characterised, on the whole, by its mildness in type; a few cases, however, were severe, and one death occurred. Dearham, Broughton, Brigham, Flimby and Seaton accounted for the greater number of notifications, though the disease was more or less scattered throughout the district (vide incidence table). The case rate per 1,000 of the population was 5.4, as compared with 2.3 for the previous year, 3.9 for 1923, .7 for 1922, and 1.4 for 1921. Scarlet Fever epidemics on a large scale usually occur in cycles; the last one of magnitude spread over two years, 1915 and 1916, when there were 231 and 240 notifications respectively.

In December a married woman in Flimby was notified as suffering from Typhoid. Soon afterwards her husband and one of the sons contracted Erysipelas, and it became necessary to consider ways and means of effecting the carrying on of the household duties at her home, together with proper nursing. To take her to the Council's Fever Hospital, Broughton Moor, was impossible, as that was taken up by Scarlet Fever patients, and only one disease in any case can be isolated there at one time. I eventually succeeded in getting the woman admitted to the Ellerbeck Infectious Diseases Hospital of the Workington Corporation. It is unknown how the infection of Typhoid originated. No further cases were notified.

There were 19 Pneumonia cases notified, 2 of which died. The total deaths from this disease (all forms) numbered 27.

From 1921 to 1925 (both years included) 71 notifications of Pneumonia were received, 14 of which died. The total deaths from this disease (all forms) for this period numbered 113.

The following table gives the age incidence of each disease notified during the year.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Cases notified in 1925.											
	Ages.—Years.											
	At all Ages											
	Under 1 year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 & upwards.
Smallpox	0											
Diphtheria	7			1	1	3	1	1				
Scarlet Fever	125	2	4	9	10	47	34	7	11	1		
Enteric Fever, including Para-Typhoid	1											
Puerperal Fever	2								2			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1										
Pneumonia	19	1				1	1	1	3	3	5	4
Erysipelas	8								3	2	2	1
Chickenpox	45	2	1	3	2	6	25	3	3	2	1	
Tuberculosis—												
A Pulmonary { M.	7						3	2		1	1	
{ F.	14						1	2	7	2	2	
B Non-Pulmonary { M.	2	1				1						
{ F.	3			1		1			1			
Ages at Death during the year												
Scarlet Fever	0											
Diphtheria	1					1						
Scarlet Fever	1						1					
Enteric Fever	0											
Pneumonia	2											
Erysipelas	0											
Tuberculosis—												
A Pulmonary { M.	1									1		
{ F.	6							1	3		2	
B Non-Pulmonary { M.	1					1						
{ F.	3			1		1			1			

Only 2 cases of Encephalitis Lethargica have been notified since this disease became compulsorily notifiable in 1919, and both cases occurred in Dearham in 1923, one of which died.

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified. Treatment was carried out at home, with complete recovery.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 21 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (7 males and 14 females), and 5 of other forms of Tuberculosis (2 males and 3 females) were notified. 11 received Sanatorium treatment.

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on Page 13, which shows that 2 fatal cases had never been notified.

Cases which come within the scope of the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, are visited, and the regulations explained. No infringement has yet occurred, and no further action has been taken.

With reference to the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, regarding compulsory removal to hospital or institution, no action has been taken.

A table showing the incidence of the more common notifiable infectious diseases is given on Page 27.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—In the first 5 months and in the first quarter of the year respectively, Mumps and Influenza were especially prevalent. Whooping Cough began to be epidemic in July and Measles in August. The two latter diseases were still rife in certain parts at the end of the year. The deaths from Influenza, Whooping Cough, and Measles were 12, 9, and 13 respectively, and their death rates per 1,000 of the population .51, .38, and .12.

German Measles appeared in one or two districts in the second quarter.

A list of School Closures for infectious disease will be seen on Page 31.

Control Over Infectious Diseases.

On receipt of notification the residence of the patient is at once visited and instructions given as to the isolation of patient, treatment of infected matter and precautionary measures regarding contacts. Disinfectant is provided free by the Council. If the case is one of Scarlet Fever* it is removed to the Isolation Hospital, Broughton Moor, if possible. 79 out of the 125 cases of Scarlet Fever in 1925 were admitted to Hospital (vide table Page 27).

This Hospital has only 12 beds (including cots) available, so that the accommodation is inadequate in an epidemic, and, as pointed out in reports of past years, a larger Isolation Hospital (in which, at any rate, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Enteric Fever could be isolated) is required. Proper isolation of a Diphtheria case, for example, in the home is often quite impossible, and it must be remembered that not only is isolation needed, but also skilled nursing. If only a few neighbouring local

* For Hospital provision for Smallpox cases, vide Page 14.

authorities would combine in a joint scheme the problem would be solved for this and several adjoining districts.

When the patient is free from infection the premises are disinfected with formalin by the Sanitary Inspector, and a thorough washing and cleansing is carried out by the householder. Rooms that have been occupied by tubercular persons are treated in the same way, with the addition of spraying and the destruction of soiled beds.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is provided free of charge by the Council, and a supply is kept by appointed chemists at five centres—Maryport, Workington, Cockermouth, Aspatria, and Keswick, whence the doctor in attendance can readily obtain the same when required.

Arrangements are also made with the Clinical Research Association, London, for the bacteriological examination of swabs, sputa, etc. During the year there were 25 throat swabs of suspected Diphtheria cases sent and reported upon, 6 proving positive and 19 negative. 4 sputa reported upon proved negative. Two specimens of blood serum were examined and reported upon for Typhoid, 1 proving positive, the other negative.

Pamphlets relating to certain diseases, e.g., Measles, Scarlet Fever, Influenza, are distributed when considered advisable. Printed instructions regarding the common notifiable diseases are given where each case occurs, along with a special warning under Section 126 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

During 1925 17 Public Elementary Schools in this district were closed as follows:—

SCHOOL.	PERIOD OF CLOSURE.	REASON.
Embleton & Wythop ...	Feb. 11th to Feb. 25th ...	Influenza and Mumps.
Brigham (Cockerm'th)	Feb. 17th to Feb. 24th ...	Influenza.
" "	Feb. 25th to Mar. 6th ...	Mumps.
Broughton Moor Mixed	Feb. 19th to Feb. 27th ...	Influenza.
" " "	Mar. 2nd to Mar. 13th ...	Mumps.
Br'ghton Moor Infants	Feb. 19th to Feb. 27th ...	Whooping Cough.
" " "	Mar. 2nd to Mar. 13th ...	Mumps.
Lorton ...	Feb. 18th to Feb. 27th ...	Influenza.
Eaglesfield & Paddle ...	Mar. 3rd to Mar. 6th ...	Influenza.
Legburthwaite ...	June 26th to July 17th ...	Chickenpox.
Borrowdale ...	Aug. 17th to Aug. 28th...	Whooping Cough.
Camerton Blanshard ...	Sept. 14th to Sept. 25th ...	Measles.
Dean ...	Oct. 1st to Oct. 2nd ...	Mumps.
Stainburn ...	Oct. 1st to Oct. 2nd ...	Mumps.
Threlkeld Quarry ...	Oct. 27th to Nov. 6th ...	Whooping Cough.
Seaton Council Infants	Nov. 16th to Nov. 27th...	Measles.

The following table shows the incidence of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid Fever, Erysipelas, Puerperal Fever, and Smallpox in the various parishes, during the last 5 years.

Parishes	Diphtheria					Scarlet Fever					Typhoid Fever					Erysipelas					Puerperal Fever.					Smallpox 1924
	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	
Above Derwent ...							1	2	2																	
Allerby & Oughterside ...	3	6	2		1			1													1					1
Bassenthwaite ...						1													1							
Bewaldeth ...																										
Blinderake, Isel, &c. ...						1		1																		
Bothel & Threapland ...					1	2	1			2						1					1					
Bridekirk ...						2																				
Gt. & Lt. Broughton ...						21	4	9		4																
Broughton Moor ...		1		1		3	3	15	1	1						1										
Blindbothel ...																										
Borrowdale ...							1											1								
Brackenthwaite ...																										
Brigham ...		8				16	9														1					
Buttermere ...								1																		
Camerton ...					2		2	4																		
Great Clifton ...			4		8	3	1	13	4	1								2								3
Little Clifton ...					1	3		6	1	13																
Crosscanonby ...	2	2	10			7	2	9		2						1		2								
Dearham ...	1	2	3	5	8	28	10	8	4	2		4				1										
Dovenby ...						1	2	1								1	2									
Dean ...						3	1	1													1	1				
Eaglesfield ...			1																							
Embleton ...				1			1																			
Flimby ...	1		2	2	1	11	10	4	4	2	1				1	2				1	1					48
Gilcrux ...			4			1		2		1							1									
Greysouthen ...						2				1									1							
Isel Old Park ...					1																	1				
Lorton ...			1			3																				
Loweswater & Mockerkin ...						1																				
Mosser ...								1																		
Papcastle and Goat ...						6	1	2		2											1					
Plumbland, &c. ...			1				1		1	1											1					
Ribton ...																										
Seaton ...		1	3	5	5	8	2	6					1					1		1						
Skiddaw ...																										
St. John's-in-the-Vale ...						1														2						16
Sunderland ...																										
Setmurthy ...		1																								
Stainburn ...							1																			
Tallantire ...						1		1																		
Underskiddaw ...							1			1						2				1						
Whinfell ...																										
Winscales ...								4																		
Workington Rural ...																										
Wythop ...							1																			
Totals ...	7	21	31	14	28	125	55	91	17	33	1	4		1	1	8	3	6	3	10	2	1				67

Housing.

PLANS PASSED.—(a) For new houses, 92; (b) enlargements, 11.

According to the Census figures, the number of structurally separate dwellings occupied in this district in 1921 was 4,882; to this must be added 128 houses built (38 in 1925) since the Census, less 12 known to be closed, bringing the total to 4,998.

The general housing conditions in the area may be considered reasonably good on the whole.

There is no excess of houses in any part of the district, but marked shortage* exists at Flimby, Broughton, Great Clifton, Little Clifton, and Brigham.

In 1923 the Council applied to the Ministry of Health for a loan to build 130 houses (50 at Flimby, 40 at Broughton, and 40 at Oughterside), but a loan was sanctioned for 36 only—12 in each of the three parishes. The 12 houses at Oughterside were built during 1925, while 12 are in course of erection at Flimby and 12 at Broughton. In addition to these, plans have been passed for 36 houses at Great Clifton.

No important changes in population have occurred, and none are at present anticipated.

Marked overcrowding exists in Great Clifton, Little Clifton, Flimby, Broughton and Brigham. The overcrowding is due to shortage of houses and the fact that many houses are too small for large and mixed families. More new houses are, therefore, required in these parishes.

The general standard of fitness of houses in the district may be considered fairly good. The general character of defects found are chiefly dampness, defective light and ventilation, and general dilapidation. The defects are mainly owner's responsibilities.

The chief difficulties found in getting extensive repairs done have been complaints by owners of excessive cost and arrears of rent.

For conditions so far as they affect housing as regards water supply, closet accommodation and refuse disposal, vide under "Sanitary Circumstances of the District."

The building bye-laws are the only bye-laws relating to houses; no other bye-laws are considered necessary at present. There are no houses let in lodging.

BROUGHTON MOOR.—Although in past years representations had several times been served for Closing Orders to be served in respect of 15 houses (4 unoccupied) known as Sea View, no definite step had been taken owing to the difficulty in finding accommodation for the tenants.

During 1925 the Parish Council appealed to the County Council with regard to this property, with the result that the County Medical Officer of Health visited and inspected it. His report confirmed the reports of the Rural District Council's officials that this property was in a state of general dilapidation, dangerous,

* With regard to Broughton Moor and Camerton, there is the question of alternative accommodation for tenants of houses which ought to be closed.—Vide paragraph.

and ought to be closed and demolished. Closing Orders were then served, but before the Orders became operative a deputation of the Parish Council interviewed this Council with the object of new houses being built by the latter to provide alternative accommodation. The whole matter has been (later) referred to the Ministry of Health for their advice.

CAMERTON.—In a block of 9 back-to-back cottages, 2 have collapsed, 1 is unoccupied, and the remaining 6 are tenanted. Because of general dilapidation, representations have been made for Closing Orders for 6 of the cottages, but owing to the inability of the tenants to secure other accommodation these Orders were postponed by the Council.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES A SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS:—

Parish.	Total inspected.	Defective.	Repaired.	Closed.
No. 1 District:—				
Wythop	2	—	—	—
Great Clifton	1	—	—	—
Borrowdale	4	—	—	—
Braithwaite	2	—	—	—
Thornthwaite	5	—	—	—
Brigham	5	—	—	—
Deanscales	3	3	—	—
No 2 District:—				
Dearham	5	5	—	—
Plumbland, etc.	1	1	1	—
Broughton Moor	17	17	—	15
Bassenthwaite	3	3	2	1
Bewaldeth	1	—	—	—
Blinderake	1	1	1	—
Allerby, Oughterside, etc. ...	5	5	3	2
Flimby	1	1	1	—
Crosscanonby	1	1	—	—
Totals	57	37	8	18

Housing Appendix.

(In accordance with Circular 648 Ministry of Health, December, 1925).
New Houses.

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

(A) Total (including numbers given separately under (b).....	38
(B) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—	
(i.) By the Local Authority	12
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	9

Unfit Dwelling-Houses.

I.—Inspection

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	102
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925,	57

- | | |
|---|----|
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 18 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 37 |

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | 4 |
|---|---|

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

(A) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 19 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By owners | 8 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | 0 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | 1 |

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 40 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:— | |
| (a) By owners | 15 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | 0 |

(C) Proceedings under Section 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925,

- | | |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders | 18 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 18 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit | 0 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 0 |
| (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 0 |

Summary of Work Done during Year ending December 31st, 1925.

(No. 1 Sanitary District.)

NUISANCES:—

Complaints received	15
Nuisances detected and reported	126
Ashpits and Privies cleansed by owners	89
Ashpits and Privies cleansed by owner scavenging ...	1959
Other Nuisances abated	27
Nuisances abated or work in hand	30

WATER SUPPLIES:—

Houses water connections renewed	68
--	----

SEWERING:—

Houses connected to public sewers	61
Gully Traps put in	40
Privies erected or repaired	6
Water Closets repaired	7
Pails or Midden Privies converted into W.C.'s.....	48
Drains or Channels made or repaired	11
Cesspools 2, Urinal 2	4
Schools sewered	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:—

Cases notified:—Scarlet Fever 59, Pneumonia 3, Chicken Pox 12, Puerperal 2, Tubercular 10	86
Scarlet Fever Cases removed to hospital	13
Houses disinfected	24
Beds destroyed	1
Visits to infectious cases	34
Visits to Tubercular cases	16
Schools visited	4

COWSHEDS:—

Number Registered during the year	2
Number on the Register	62
Structural defects remedied	3
Number of Inspections	95

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES:—

Registered 7, Licensed 5	12
Repaired	2
Meat condemned and destroyed as unfit for food (lbs. approx.)	1120
Number of Inspections	60

WORKSHOPS AND FACTORIES:—

Factories 18, Workshops 30, Work Places 20	68
Registered during the year	4
Number of Inspections	26

HOUSING:—

Houses Inspected under the Housing Acts	22
Houses Inspected under the Public Health Acts ...	36
Defects found	36
Defects remedied	14

NOTICES SERVED:—

Under the Public Health Acts (intimatory)	28
Under the Public Health Acts (statutory)	123

JOHN WM. JACKSON,

Sanitary Inspector.

Summary of Work Done during Year ending December 31st, 1925.

(No. 2 Sanitary District.)

COWSHEDS:—

On the Register (62 Cowkeepers and 2 Purveyors) ...	64
Registered during the year	3
Inspections made	127
Structural improvements (including 2 new cowsheds)	4

HOUSING:—

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	35
Structural or other defects found	34
Defects remedied	8
Unfit for Human Habitation and Closing Orders Served	18

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS:—

On the Register	61
Removed from the Register	1
Inspections made	53
Structural Improvements (including 1 new bake- house)	2

SLAUGHTER HOUSES:—

On the Register (11 Licensed and 3 Registered)	14
Structural improvements (including 1 new slaughter house)	4
Inspections made	105
Meat condemned and destroyed (lbs. approx.).....	3338

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:—

Scarlet Fever 66, Diphtheria 7, Enteric Fever 1, Erysipelas 8, Tuberculosos 18, Pneumonia 17, Chicken Pox 33	150
Visits to infectious cases	180
Removed to Hospital	66
Houses disinfected	110
Infected bedding, etc., destroyed and compensation paid	5

WATER SUPPLIES:—

New Service Pipe laid or renewed	51
--	----

NUISANCES:—

Complaints received	28
Nuisances deted and reported	211
Nuisances abated	171
Nuisances unabated or in hand	40
Water closets and privies repaired	14
New privies built	12
New ashpits built	3
New cesspools built	2
Work done by Council, after prosecution of an Owner, for non-compliance to abate a nuisance	1

SEWERING:—

Houses sewered and connected to public sewers	49
Privies converted to water closets	26
New water closets built	22
Gully traps fixed	57
New drains laid (private)	16

SCAVENGING:—

Fouls ashpits reported and cleansed (private)	70
Loads of refuse removed by Public Scavengers	2839

NOTICES SERVED:—

Under the Public Health Acts (intimatory) ...	30
Under the Public Health Acts (statutory) ...	107
Under the Housing Acts (intimatory)	8
Under the Housing Acts (statutory)	21

GEORGE NELSON, M.S.I.A.

(Sanitary Inspector).

