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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 1943

Together with the Summary of work
of the Sanitary Inspectors.

"West Cumberland Times,"
Cockermouth

1944



Cockermouth Rural District Council

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Cockermouth Rural District Council.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1943, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940. and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received July, 1944

War-time duties and responsibilities have again been carried out loyally by members of the Council and its Officials and voluntary workers throughout the district.

My thanks are due to those Observers of Rainfall in the district, shown on page 5, for their courtesy in supplying their records.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant.

CHARLES A. MASON,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 161,312 (inclusive of area covered by water).

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1943)
(see Page 6) 18,410

Number of inhabited houses (end 1943) according to Rate
Book, 5,175

Rateable Value £91,987

Sum represented by Penny Rate :—Gross £383

Estimated produce of a Penny Rate, £369

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live	Legitimate	247	108	139	Birth Rate (R.G.)
Births	Illegitimate	24	14	10	14.7
Still Births	...	13	6	7	Rate per 1,000
					Total (live and still) births 45.7

	Total	M.	F.	
Deaths	218	94	124	Crude Death Rate

(R.G.) 11.8 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

Maternal Mortality :—

Deaths from puerperal causes (childbirth):—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	0	Nil
Total	0	Nil

Infantile Mortality :—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age 12

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births (approximately)	44
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	36
Illegitimate „ „ Illegitimate „ „	125
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
Deaths from Cancer	27

Table showing RAINFALL in inches, in 1943, compiled from observers in various parts of the district.

Observation Station ...	Dean School	At Crosthwaite Keswick, about 440 yards from the Cockermouth Rural District boundary	Spring Bank, Braithwaite	Higham	Dale Head Hall, Thirlmere
Observer ...	H. Irwin, Esq.	T. Wilson, Esq.	J. Smith Hill, Esq.	Miss Fisher.	J. P. Hallam Esq., Engineer to Manchester Corporation Water Works
Diameter of Rain Gauge Funnel	5 inches	5 in.	8 in.	5 in.	5 in.
Height of gauge above ground	11 in.	1 ft.	1 ft.	9 in.	1 ft.
Height of gauge above sea level	365 ft.	254 ft.	280 ft.	500 ft.	620 ft.
1943.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.
January	6.53	8.77	10.24	5.02	16.43
February	4.73	5.96	6.13	3.62	8.63
March	1.69	1.70	1.96	1.30	2.89
April	2.92	4.00	3.89	2.74	5.43
May	4.56	5.14	5.23	3.40	8.26
June	3.56	3.90	4.22	3.31	6.50
July	4.07	3.51	3.97	3.43	5.03
August	7.82	7.98	6.22	9.07	11.89
September	7.24	6.54	7.69	5.27	9.27
October	8.15	8.87	11.11	8.34	13.35
November	3.51	4.14	4.54	3.14	6.31
December	2.82	3.54	4.12	2.85	5.84
Totals	57.60	64.05	72.32	51.49	99.83
Average prev. 5 yrs 1938-42 (incl)	45.42	57.35 (Av. 41 yrs. 56.79)	65.61	42.35	86.68 (Av. 66 yrs. 81.74)

Cockermouth Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, for the year 1943.

The area of the district in statute acres is 161,312 (approximately 4,700 of which are covered by inland water).

POPULATION.

For 1943 the figure given for the resident population of the district by the Registrar General is 18,410, on which the birth and death rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases are based.

N.B.—Figures relating to non-civilians are excluded.
(The figure for 1942 was 19,260).

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

In the Cockermouth Rural District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' Area, the number of persons in receipt of outdoor relief was 403, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 47 of the population, as compared with 1 in 51 for 1942.

Nineteen persons were admitted to Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of approximately 1 in 969 of the population. (1942—21 persons, and 1 in 917 of population).

The numbers for 1943 are detailed as follows:—

Registration Sub-district	Out-door Relief	Indoor
Cockermouth ...	65	5
Maryport ...	93	1
Workington ...	123	7
Keswick ...	19	1
Aspatria ...	103	5
	—	—
	403	19

I am indebted to Mr. J. T. Gill, Clerk to the Guardians Committee, for the above figures.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

Live Births.—The total number of live births registered in and belonging to the district in 1943 was 271 (122 males and 149 females). Of these 24 (14 males and 10 females) were illegitimate. The net live birth rate is accordingly 14.7 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15.8 for the previous year:—

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Birth Rates, 1943—Cumberland	17.4
Rural District of Cumberland	17.2
Urban Districts of Cumberland	17.6
England and Wales	16.5
Cockermouth Rural District	14.7

The percentage of illegitimate live births is approximately 8.8 as compared with 6.5 in 1942.

Still Births.—13 still births (all legitimate) were also registered, giving a still birth rate of 0.70 per 1000 of the population as compared with 0.41 for 1942. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.50).

The still birth rate per 1000 total live and still births was 45.7 as compared with 25.5 for 1942.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths (civilian, only), registered as belonging to the district was 218 (94 males and 124 females), i.e., after correcting for non-residents dying within the district and for those persons whose usual residence was within the district dying outside the district. This gives a crude death rate of 11.8 per 1000 of the population as compared with 10.8 for the previous year.

The adjustment factor, or Areal Comparability Factor, has not been provided by the Registrar General for 1943, so the adjusted death rate cannot be given.

Comparisons of crude death rates are shewn below:—

Death Rates, 1943—Cumberland	Crude
...	12.3
Rural Districts of Cumberland	12.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12.4
England and Wales	12.1
Cockermouth Rural District	11.8

(For causes of death during the year see table on page 8.)

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 12 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of approximately 44 per 1000 births as compared with 52 for the preceding year.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1943

Causes of Death.			Males	Females
All Causes			94	124
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever		0	0
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever		0	0
3.	Scarlet Fever		0	0
4.	Whooping-cough		0	1
5.	Diphtheria		0	0
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System		1	5
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis		1	0
8.	Syphilitic diseases		1	0
9.	Influenza		2	3
10.	Measles.		0	0
11.	Ac: Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis		0	0
12.	Ac: inf: encephalitis		0	0
13.	Cancer of b: cav: and oesoph: (M.) Uterus (F.)		1	0
14.	" stomach and duodenum		3	2
15.	" breast		0	7
16.	" all other sites		5	9
17.	Diabetes		3	0
18.	Intra-cran. vasc: lesions		17	23
19.	Heart Dis:		25	33
20.	Other Dis: of circulatory system		0	2
21.	Bronchitis		1	2
22.	Pneumonia (all forms)		4	4
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases		1	2
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum		1	0
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years		1	0
26.	Appendicitis		1	0
27.	Other Digestive Diseases		1	4
28.	Nephritis		2	1
29.	Puerperal and post-abort: sepsis		0	0
30.	Other Maternal Causes		0	0
31.	Premature Birth		1	1
32.	Congen: malform: birth inj: infant dis.		3	3
33.	Suicide		1	1
34.	Road Traffic acc:		0	1
35.	Other violent causes		5	4
36.	All other causes		13	16

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total ...

6

6

Legitimate ...

5

4

Illegitimate ...

1

2

M

F

LIVE BIRTHS }

Total ...

122

149

Legitimate ...

108

139

Illegitimate ...

14

10

STILL BIRTHS }

Total ...

6

7

Legitimate ...

6

7

Illegitimate ...

—

—

POPULATION (for Births and Deaths), 1943—R.G.—(see p. 6)

18,410

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1943.

Net 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
Broncho-pneumonia.							1			1
Gastro-Enteritis.								1		1
Premature Birth.	2				2					2
Asthenia from Birth						1				1
Convulsions	1				1	1				2
Whooping Cough.								1		1
Acute Catarrhal Jaundice	1				1					1
Spinal Bifida						1				1
Other Congenital Malformation		1		1	2					2
All Causes (certified)	4	1		1	6	3	1	1	1	12 (R.G.)

Two out of the four deaths in the first column above
died within 24 hrs.

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1943—

Cumberland	...	48
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	48
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	48
England and Wales	...	49
Cockermouth Rural District	...	44

Three deaths occurred among illegitimate infants so that the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate was 125 per 1000 illegitimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of approximately 36 per 1,000 legitimate births. These rates were respectively nil and 56 for the previous year.

(For Infant Mortality see page 9).

SENILE DEATH RATE.

136 persons (60 males and 76 females) had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile death rate of 58.3 per cent. of the total deaths.

33 (14 m 19f)	persons died between the ages of	65 and 70 years
36 (16 m 20f)	"	70 and 75
33 (15 m 18f)	"	75 and 80
20 (11 m 9f)	"	80 and 85
10 (3 m 7f)	"	85 and 90
4 (1 m 3f)	"	at 90, 90, 91 and 93 years respectively

INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year there were 12 inquests (7 of which were held outside the district). No Coroner's Certificates were received of cases where postmortem examination had been made but no inquest held.

Seven deaths were uncertified (1942—9).

Violence.—The death rate due to Violence (all forms) was 0.65 per 1000 of the population in the Cockermouth Rural District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accidents, Other Violence and the Total Violence deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates of each per 1000 of the population:—

	Suicide		Road Traffic Accidents		Other Violence excl'g Road Traffic Acc.		Total Violence	
	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942
Deaths	2	1	1	5	9	6	12	12
% of all causes	.91	.47	.45	2.39	4.12	2.87	5.50	5.74
D.R. pr 1000 population	.108	.051	.054	.259	.488	.311	.651	.62

The deaths from Violence in 1943 include 1 from occupational accident (pit), 2 road accidents, 2 suicide (drowning), 2 from falls with broken leg, 1 accidental suffocation in epileptic fit, and 4 other conditions.

CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 27 cases, as follows:—

System	Primary Organ	Males	Females
Alimentary	Oesophagus	1	2
	Stomach	3	2
	Bowel	1	2
	Rectum	1	
Glandular	Breast		7
	Prostate	1	
	Pancreas		4
Hepatic	Liver		1
Reproductive	Penis and Scrotum	1	
Other	Ear	1	

2 of the deaths	(f)	occurred among persons between	40 and 50 years of age
2	"	(f)	50 and 60
11	"	(4m 7f)	60 and 70
10	"	(4m 6f)	70 and 80
2	"	(1m 1f)	80 and 90

The 27 deaths correspond to a death rate of 1.4 per 1000 of the population as compared with 37 deaths and a death rate of 1.9 in 1942. Approximately out of every 8 deaths of persons in this district 1 was due to cancer.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Vide also page 23

There were 7 deaths due to Tuberculosis.

	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory System	1	5	6
Other Forms	1	0	1
All cases	2	5	7

Five of the deaths (including the three pulmonary) were of previously notified cases in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of .38 per 1000 of the population, as compared with .31 for 1942.

The "Consumption" (i.e. Pulmonary Tuberculosis) Death Rate was .32 per 1000 of the population, as compared with last year's figure of .15.

.....

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. Two full-time Sanitary Inspectors:—
 - (i.) Senior S.I.—Mr. George Nelson, who holds the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and also a special Certificate of the London City Guilds for Sanitation and Plumbing.
 - (ii) Additional S.I.—Mr. Edgar Dixon, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board, and a Building Construction Certificate of the Northern Counties Technical Examination Council.

3. Mr. Denys Hinde, clerk and assistant, is serving in H.M. Forces and a temporary female clerk is employed.

The work of the Council's Engineering Staff (Sanitary and Water) under Mr. A. E. Simpson, A.M.I.C.E., is to some extent connected with this department.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with investigations of certain cases of illness during the year, 1943:—

Material	Test applied for—	Result	
		Pos.	Neg.
Throat or Nose swabs	Diphtheria	0	8
" "	Vincent's Angina	0	3
" "	Haemolytic Streptococci	2	5
Sputum	Tuberculosis	0	11
Blood	Typhoid group (Widal)	1	2
Faeces	"	0	2
"	Dysentery	0	3

.....

Other particulars under Provision of Health services remain as detailed in my 1930 and subsequent reports.

.....

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

Generally speaking, with few exceptions, this district is well covered with public and private water mains.

Crummock Scheme.—Shortage and discolouration still continued to be experienced at times (see previous reports) and some complaints were received.

Extensions of Water Mains during the year:—

Great Clifton.—To the North Eastern Housing Association Site,

Bow Flatts:—

121 lin. yds. of 3in. "Everite" pipes and

36 lin. yds. of 4in. "Everite" pipes.

Scrapping of Mains:—

2,507 lin. yds. of 8in. pumping main between the Great Broughton Pumping Station and the Broughton Moor Reservoir.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The system of Drainage and Sewerage throughout the district remain as detailed in my 1925 and subsequent reports.

Extensions of Main Sewers.—The following extension was carried out during 1943:—

Little Broughton.—24 lin. yds. (6in.) to Banks Farm.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

In the villages where there are public sewers the drainage of 10 houses has been connected and 10 privies have been converted to the Water-Carriage system during the year.

As soon as suitable labour and materials are available the Council should compel all outstanding private drainage and other sanitary work in sewered villages to be carried out, in order to get rid of the existing bad sanitary conditions.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The removal of ashes and house refuse and the cleansing of privy middens are contracted for by the Council in the parishes shown in the table below, in which is given the number of houses involved and the contractual cost (including provision and upkeep of tips, wheeling out, etc., and relating to the financial year ending 31st March, 1944).

Owing to war time costs and shortage of labour and transport, there have been many difficulties in connection with removal and disposal of house refuse. Every possible effort continues to be made to meet these war time difficulties.

From the table it will be observed the total number of houses covered by these contracts is approximately 4,030, and the total cost for the year £1,963 17s 1d. (Average cost per house was approximately 9s 9d per annum or 2½d per week).

Parish (or part)	Approx. No. of Houses.	Total Cost
		£ s d
Allerby & Oughterside	170	99 10 7
Above Derwent	316	254 16 8
Borrowdale	124	97 8 3
Brigham (and Broughton Cross)	197	55 12 0
Broughton	332	63 17 5
Broughton Moor	217	68 9 0
Blinderake	54	30 18 11
*Bothel & Threapland	76	57 13 4
Crosscanonby	216	113 17 2
Camerton	54	27 11 5
Dearham	520	250 10 6
Eaglesfield	51	35 0 6
Embleton	47	30 0 0
Gilerux	80	73 10 0
Greysouthen	131	74 3 4
Great Clifton	312	86 8 0
Little Clifton and Bridgefoot	107	40 5 3
Lorton	89	58 17 2
Papcastle	86	60 3 5
Plumbland	118	61 5 0
Seaton	585	165 8 8
Setmurthy	21	7 10 0
Underskiddaw	91	95 0 0
Winscales (Furnace Row)	35	48 10 6
Wythop	16	7 10 0
	4029	£1963 17 1

*Bothel was added as from 1st April, 1943.

A system of house refuse removal by private contract is still arranged by householders in Bassenthwaite Village.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The inclusive summary of work done by the two Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. George Nelson and Mr. Edgar Dixon, in accordance with Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, will be found at the end of this report (commencing on page 27). The amount of routine work carried out continues to be large and, of course, extra duties and responsibilities in connection with the war remain as before.

I again record my appreciation of the friendly co-operation of the Council's staff as a whole and, in particular, that of the two Sanitary Inspectors, and I am also again indebted to Mr. Nelson, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable assistance in compiling my annual report. (Mr. Nelson is also the Council's Chief Billeting Officer and Food Decontamination Officer).

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

There were 36 shops on the register and 51 inspections made.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1943:—

Premises.	Inspec- number	Defects Found	Number of Written Notices.	Defects Remedied
Factories with mechanical power	19	35	2	1
Factories without do	48	63	0	0
Other Premises under Act	0	0	0	0
Totals	67	98	2	1

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

At the request of the Ministry of Food, in common with other local authorities in the County, the Council agreed to the County Council delegating powers to them to administer the above Act for the duration of hostilities.

The present arrangements are that all infestations on agricultural land and properties are dealt with by the "Pests Officers" of the County War Agricultural Executive Committee and all others by the Council's Public Health Department.

A survey of the district was made regarding Rodent Infestations and a report submitted to the Director of Infestation Control in August, 1943.

No "Reservoir" or "Major" infestations were observed and all other infestations were dealt with by poison baits.

The duty of giving advice and supplying poison free has also been continued and helpful co-operation has been received from the "Pests Officers" of the County W.A.E.C.

Housing.

PLANS PASSED —

- (a) New dwelling-houses, 6.
- (b) Enlargements or renovations of dwelling-houses 6.
- (c) Other buildings (including 6 dairy cowsheds) 11.

78 new houses were completed in this district during the year. All these were erected by the North-Eastern Housing Association (1 at Seaton, 22 at Broughton Moor, 27 at Dearham, and 28 at Great Clifton).

The housing shortage continues to be acute especially in certain parts of the district and it is hoped that as soon as hostilities have ceased the Council will be permitted to commence with its Post War Housing Programme.

POST WAR HOUSING PROGRAMME.

In consequence of the Ministry of Health Circular No. 2778 dated 4th March, 1943, respecting a **First Year** post war programme a report on the Housing position in the District was prepared and considered by the Post War Reconstruction Committee and the following programme was agreed to by the Council:—

Post War First Year.

Dearham	40	Broughton Moor	30
Crosby	30	Brigham	36

This proposal has been approved by the Ministry of Health and at the time of writing the selection of sites and preparation of layout plans are well in hand.

By arrangement, it is intended that these houses will be erected by the North Eastern Housing Association.

To meet the needs in other parts of the District the Council have under consideration the erection of further numbers of houses in their Post War Housing Programme.

Housing Appendix.

In accordance with Circular 1961 Ministry of Health, 16th Feb., 1940.

STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 66
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 144
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 0

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	2
(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	64
1. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	10
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	0
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	54
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	31
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
4. Housing Act, 1936, Part iv.,—Overcrowding:—	
(a) (i.) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ...	66
(ii.) Number of families dwelling therein ...	75
(iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	467
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	32
(c) (i.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	30
(ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	215
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowded conditions:—	

In regard to the 30 cases (4, (c) above) of overcrowding relieved during the year:—8 were rehoused in houses built by the North Eastern Housing Association, and the remainder found other accommodation privately.

Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 598 registered dairy premises and of this number the occupiers may be classified as follows: 395 producers and wholesalers of milk, 78 producers and retailers, 6 retail purveyors and 119 producers and butter-makers.

907 inspections were carried out.

14 registered dairy premises were improved under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, these include 6 new dairy cowsheds. In addition, 29 separate milk cooler houses were provided. A separate cooler house is an essential factor in clean milk production, but there are still a number of farms lacking in this respect.

In this district 45 producers held licences for the production of milk under "Special Designations" as follows:—

9 Tuberculin Tested. 36 Accredited.

The Milk Marketing Board, the Express Dairy Co., and the Nestle and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. continue to collect a considerable quantity of milk daily from this district.

This Council has continued to co-operate with the County Council in the scheme of the latter for general milk-sampling, including Designated, School, and Ungraded Milk.

The total number of samples taken in this district by the Council's Sanitary officers were 224, of which 82 (or 36.6 per cent) were unsatisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint—vide table below.

Result of the Bacteriological examinations of Milk Samples, 1943:—

Designation.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Totals.
T.T.	18	12	30
Accredited	94	44	138
Ungraded	30	26	56
Totals	142	82	224

NOTE.—In the above table are included 49 School Milk samples, 17 of which come in the unsatisfactory group.

Of the 82 unsatisfactory 15 were borderline cases.

Tubercle bacilli were reported (in Sept.) in one sample of milk produced in this area. Upon investigation a cow with Tubercular udder was found and straightway slaughtered.

Mr. John Reid, Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, has kindly supplied me with the following figures relating to work done under the Authority:—

Particulars of Animals Slaughtered under the Tuberculosis
Order of 1938, from premises registered in the Cockermouth
Rural District, during the year 1943

Total number of Animals Slaughtered	...	...	8
Cows in Milk	...	...	6
Other Cows or Heifers	...	...	2
Other Bovine Animals	...	...	0
Types of Disease Found at post-mortem:—			
Tuberculosis of Udder	...	...	5
Tuberculosis with Emaciation	...	...	1
Tuberculosis with Chronic Cough and showing definite Clinical signs	...	...	2

The co-operation of, and joint inspections with, the veterinary Staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries continued harmonious and helpful in matters relating to dairy work and milk production.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Since January, 1940, all slaughtering in private slaughter-houses was suspended by the Ministry of Food as a war-time measure and all slaughtering is being carried on in regional slaughter-houses.

Private slaughter houses in the district have therefore only been used as meat stores and for making-up purposes, the butchers receiving their supplies of meat from Maryport and Workington abattoirs.

By arrangement with the Maryport Urban District Council regular assistance continues to be rendered in the work of meat inspection at the Maryport Abattoir by the appropriate officials of this (C.R.D.) Council.

In addition 193 inspections have been made of meat stores in the district.

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Bakehouses.—There remain 13 registered bakehouses in the district, 6 of which are domestic. No serious defects were found during the year.

.....

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1943 in the Cockermouth Rural District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, was 149. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (*vide post*) the number=54. (The figure for 1942 was 49).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1943.

Disease	Total cases notified in C.R.D.	Cases notified 1942 admitted to hospital	Deaths of notified cases
Small-pox	0	0	0
Diphtheria	3	3	0
Scarlet Fever	24	23	0
Enteric Fever (including nil Para-Typhoid	1	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Pneumonia (all forms)	10	1	1
Erysipelas	1	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	0	0	0
Ac. Poliomyelitis	1	1	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0
Measles	75	0	0
Whooping Cough	20	0	1
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary	Males 7 Females 3	5 (San.) 2 "	1 1
Non-Pulmonary	Males 3 Females 1	1 (Hosp) 0	1 0

.....

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable diseases, 1943.

Disease	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	J'ly	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec.	
Scarlet Fever	5	7	3			1	2	1	2	1	1	1	— 24
Diphtheria				1	2								— 3
Pneumonia (all forms)		2	2		1	1	1	1	1				— 10
Erysipelas						1							— 1
Typhoid									1				— 1
Poliomyelitis										1			— 1
Measles	19	2	6	15	2		27		2		2		— 75
Whoop. Cough			1	2	7	4		4		1		1	— 20
Tuberculosis :													
Pulmonary		2			1		1	3	1	2			— 10
Other Forms		1	1		1		1						— 4

From notifications received it is deduced that 1 in every 340 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (Chickenpox, Measles and Whooping Cough excluded) and Tuberculosis Regulations. (In 1942 the figures were 1 in 393).

(Vide Post re Measles and Whooping Cough)

There were only 3 cases of Diphtheria (see Distribution Table Page 26). They were removed to Hospital and recovered. None of them had been inoculated against the disease previously. The ages were 22, 25 and 28 years. Two were visitors and in all probability were developing the disease when they arrived in this district.

The case rate of Diphtheria per 1000 of the population was therefore .16, as compared with .10 for 1942. (The corresponding rate for all England and Wales was 0.88).

The Diphtheria death rate per 1000 of the population was nil the same as for 1942. The rate (1943) for England and Wales was .03.

The immunisation campaign against Diphtheria was continued as before. In this district by the end of the year it was estimated that approximately 56 per cent. of children under 15 years of age received the two immunising doses of A.P.T. (Alum praecipitated toxoid) as sponsored by the Minister of Health.

(N.B.—Infants under 1 year of age are not inoculated).

In splitting up the children immunised under 15 into two age groups the figures work out as follows:—Under 5 years 41.6 per cent. and 5 to 15 years 62.2 per cent.

The above calculations have been made on population figures at 31st December, kindly given me by the Local Food Office.

Most of the work was again carried out personally by me at the local schools and the Cockermouth School Clinic, but as before I am grateful for the help of Dr. R. J. Thompson, of the County Health Staff, the co-operation of local Medical Practitioners, Head Teachers, the various District Nurses, and particularly the County Health Visitor, Miss Lawson.

24 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified (1942—16—vide distribution table page 26—and were mainly mild in type. 23 were removed to Hospital. No death occurred, so that the death rate from Scarlet Fever was again nil.

The case rate of Scarlet Fever per 1000 of the population was therefore, 1.30 as compared with .83 for 1942. (The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 3.01, and death rate .00).

One case of Typhoid Fever (in Crosby Villa) was notified; diagnosis seemingly was established only late in the patient's illness. There was no further spread of the disease and the patient recovered.

There was no Para-typhoid notification.

The case rate per 1000 of the population was therefore .05, and death rate nil for Typhoid Fever. (For England and Wales in 1943 the Typhoid and Para-typhoid case rates were each .01, whilst the combined death rate of these two fevers was 0.00).

Ten cases of Pneumonia were notified, 1 of which died. The registered deaths from this disease (all forms) numbered 8.

One case of Acute Poliomyelitis was notified—that of a little girl aged nine years attending St. John's in the Vale School; it seemed evident that the disease had been contracted when on a holiday outside the district; she was admitted to Orthopaedic Hospital, Windermere, and did well.

Encephalitis Lethargica, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—No notifications.

No notification of Puerperal Pyrexia was received. (N.B.—This term includes Puerperal Fever).

The case rate for Puerperal Pyrexia is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate was nil per 1000 total births (i.e. live and still births), as compared with 3.19 (one case) in 1942. The corresponding rate for all England and Wales was 11.68.

There was no maternal death, so that the Maternal Mortality (all causes) rate was therefore nil per 1000 total (live and still) births as compared with 3.19 (one death) in 1942.

Tuberculosis.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 10 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (7 males and 3 females) and 4 of Other Forms of Tuberculosis (3 males and 1 female) were notified. Of those notified during the year seven pulmonary cases (5 males and 2 females) were admitted to Sanatorium, and 1 non-pulmonary (male) is known to have received Hospital and Sanatorium treatment, whilst 3 died (1 male and 1 female pulmonary and 1 male non-pulmonary). Among previously notified and inward transfer cases (and including re-admittances) 6 cases (3 males and 3 females, pulmonary) were admitted to Sanatorium.

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 11

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases):—

1943		New Cases				Deaths			
Age		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
10—15	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
15—20	...	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
20—25	...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
25—35	...	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—and upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	7	3	3	1	1	5	1	0

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1943 was as follows:—

		Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	..	34	20	54
Non-pulmonary	..	22	17	39
		—	—	—
All Cases	..	56	37	93

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Disease.—Influenza was prevalent during the Winter months, and 5 deaths were attributed to this disease—equivalent to an influenza death rate of .27 per 1000 of the population, as compared with .31 (6 deaths) for 1942. The rate for England and Wales (1943) was 0.37.

The deaths were distributed as follows:—1 Loweswater (January), 1 Seaton (November), 1 Dean (November), 1 Brigham (November), and 1 St. John's-in-the-Vale (December).

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which became notifiable as from 1st November, 1939).—Measles affected many parishes more or less, particularly Broughton and Broughton Moor, Oughterside and Crosscannonby; notifications numbered 75. Whooping Cough affected several parishes only. Plumbland parish having the highest number of notifications (8—in a total of 20).

The case rates of Measles and Whooping Cough (as per notifications) were, respectively 4.07 and 1.08 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 9.88 and 2.54 for all England and Wales.

No death from Measles, but one from Whooping Cough (in Greysouthen) occurred, the death rate being therefore, respectively, nil and .05, as compared with 0.02 and 0.03 in England and Wales.

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Hospital accommodation as provided by the West Cumberland Joint Hospital Board for infectious diseases remained as in the preceding year.

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SCHOOL CLOSURES.

During 1943. no public elementary school in the Cockermouth Rural District was closed on account of Infectious Disease.

The following table shows the incidence of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Typhoid Fever in the various parishes:—

1943.	Parish.	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever.
	Above Derwent	2	3	...
	Allerby and Oughterside ...	—	—	—
	Bassenthwaite	—	—	—
	Bewaldeth, &c.	—	—	—
	Blindcrake, incl. Isel Old Park and Sunderland ...	—	—	—
	Bothel and Threapland ...	—	—	—
	Bridekirk (incl. Dovenby* and Tallantire) ...	—	5	—
	Gt and Lt Broughton ...	—	1	—
	Broughton Moor	1	—	—
	Blindbothel incl. Mosser & Whinfell ...	—	—	—
	Borrowdale	—	—	—
	Brigham	—	—	—
	Buttermere incl Brackenthwaite ...	—	—	—
	Camerton, incl. Ribton ...	—	—	—
	Great Clifton	—	2	—
	Little Clifton	—	1	—
	Crosscanonby	—	1	1
	Dearham	—	3	—
	Dean, incl. Eaglesfield &c. ...	—	1	—
	Embleton	—	1	—
	Gilcrux	—	2	—
	Greysouthen	—	—	—
	Lorton	—	1	—
	Loweswater and Mockerkin ...	—	—	—
	Papcastle	—	2	—
	Plumbland, &c.	—	1	—
	Seaton	—	—	—
	St John's-in-the-Vale ...	—	—	—
	Setmurthy	—	—	—
	Underskiddaw, incl. Skiddaw ...	—	—	—
	Winscales	—	—	—
	Wythop	—	—	—
	Totals... ..	3	24	1

(*1 of the number given occurred in Dovenby Colony.)

Sanitary Inspectors' Summary for the year ending
December 31st, 1943

Complaints received	86
Nuisances observed	168
Nuisances abated	89
Nuisances unabated or work in hand	79
Sanitary Conveniences repaired	26
Drains tested	23
New drains laid and tested	21
New gully traps fixed	40
New chambers constructed	21
Septic tanks and filters constructed (private)	5
New water closets fixed	20
Houses Disinfested	13

Visits to infectious cases	27
Patients removed to Isolation Hospital	24
Houses disinfected	32

Houses visited with special reference to water supplies	23
Houses provided with supplies from new public mains.....	4
Old connections and service pipes renewed	18
Houses provided with new supplies (private)	1
Samples of water taken for analysis	2
(a) Pump at Greentrees, Blindboethel (unsatisfactory)	
(b) Tap from Public Main, Lorton (satisfactory)	

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	12
Number of inspections made	29
Houses recorded under Consolidation Regulations ...	0
Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. ...	2
Representations made	0
Undertakings given by Owners	0
Houses (not including the above) with structural or other defects	10
Houses, defects remedied	10
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	0
Cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	30
Number of new cases of overcrowding	32
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	54
No. of Visits made under the Public Health Acts ...	115
Number of houses with defects	54
" " repaired	31

CAMPING:—

Licences issued under P.H.A. 1936 (Section 269), Camping Sites 3. Individual Moveable Dwellings 2	5
Visits of Inspection	14

SEWERING:—

Inspections (including interviews with owners of properties) regarding the provision of new sanitary arrangements and drainage connexions	39
Private drains connected to public sewers	10
Privies converted to water carriage system	10
New water closets built	7
New gully traps fixed	31
New chambers constructed	12

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS:—

On the Register at the end of the year (Producers and Wholesalers 395 Producers and Retailers 78 Retail Purveyors 6, Producers and Butter-makers 119)	598
Visits of inspection	907
Number of registered premises (including 6 new cowsheds) structurally improved	14
Milk Cooler Houses constructed	29
Samples of Milk taken for Bacteriological Analysis (see table page 18)	224
(82 were unsatisfactory as to cleanliness).	

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION:—

Number of slaughter-houses on the Register—	
Now used as Meat Stores	15
Number of licensed Slaughtermen	39
Inspections made (including assistance at Maryport Abattoir)	193
Condemned in private traders' shops or stores:—	
4 6lb. Tins chopped ham — blown or damaged	
1 6lb. Tin Pork " "	
1 6lb. Tin Tongue " "	
6 1lb. Tins Beans and Peas " "	
2 6lb. Tins Spam " "	
1 6lb. Tin Corned Beef	
1½ cwts. Argentine Butter	

FACTORIES (including Workshops and Bakehouses).

On the Register at the end of the year	67
Visits of inspection	98

SHOPS' ACT, 1934:—

Registered premises	36
Visits of inspection	51

SCAVENGING:—

Foul ashpits reported and cleansed (private)	14
Number of houses from which refuse is removed by Council's contractors	4,029

NOTICES:—

Under the Public Health Acts (Intimatory)	177
Under the Public Health Acts (Statutory)	7
Under the Housing Acts (Intimatory)	14
Under the Housing Acts (Statutory)	0
Under the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926 (Intimatory)	324
Under the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926 (Statutory)	0

GEORGE NELSON, M.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary and Housing Inspector.



