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COCKERMOUTH

17
Urban District Council

Annual Report

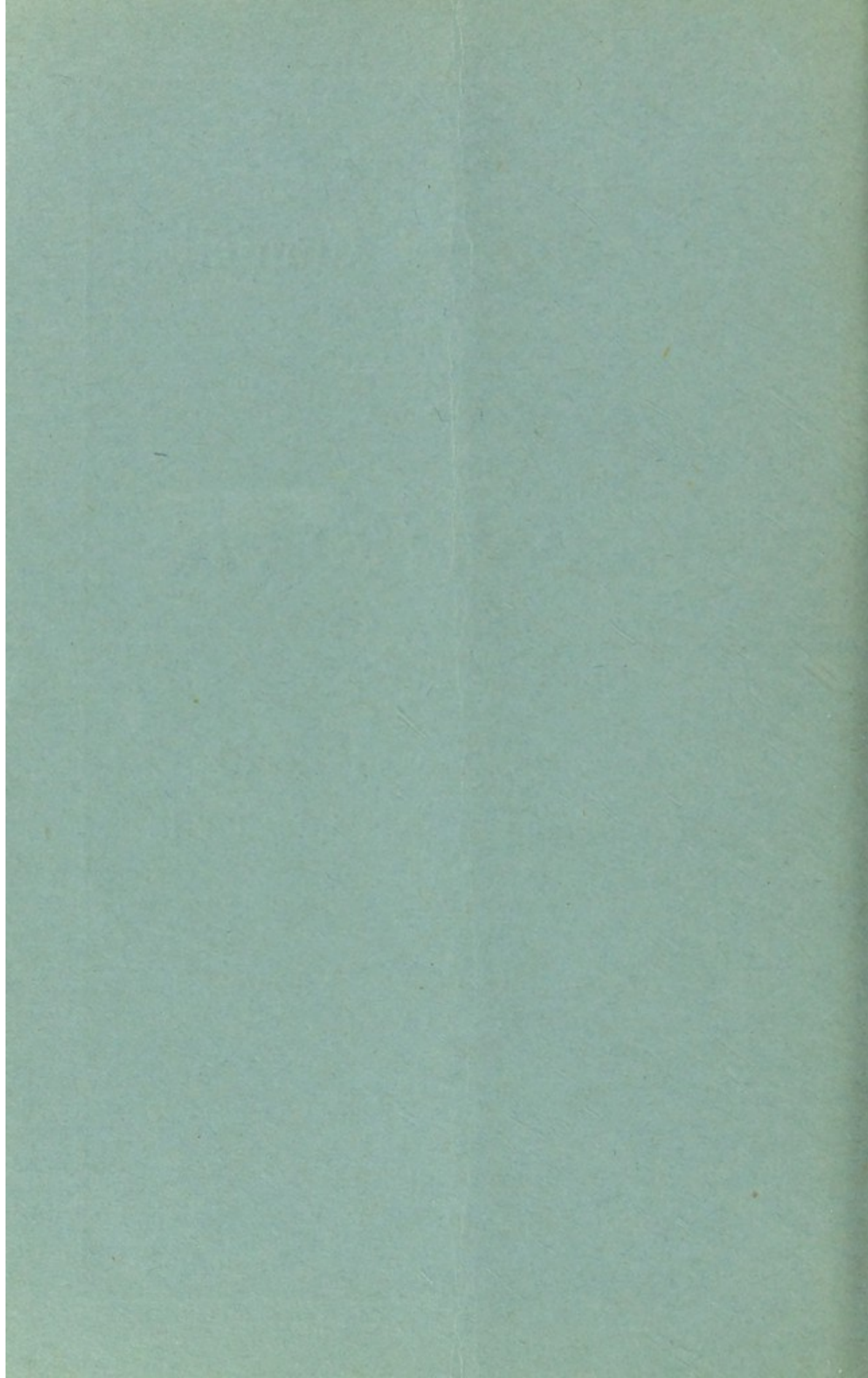
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

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

FOR THE YEAR 1939

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Sanitary Inspector.



COCKERMOUTH
Urban District Council

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Cockermouth Urban District Council.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1939, 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 October, 1940. Under instructions, a considerable curtailment has been effected.

The late publication of the report is regretted. It is scarcely necessary to say that the delay has been unavoidable—much of it being due to the extra duties thrust on the local authority owing to emergency measures and the war. These duties have fallen, of course, chiefly on the shoulders of officials, but members of the Council and other workers have assisted with commendable zeal and willingness which I consider ought not to pass unrecognised.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. MASON,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 2,062

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid 1939)
(see page 5) 4,807.

Number of inhabited houses (end 1939) according to Rate
Books, 1,566

Rateable Value £23,448

Sum represented by Penny Rate (approx.) £91.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	71	36	35	Birth Rate (R.G.) 16.4
	Illegitimate	8	5	3	
Still Births	...	2	1	1	Rate per 1,000
Total (live and still) births					24.6

		Total	M.	F.	
Deaths	...	77	34	43	Crude Death Rate

(R.G.) 15.4 per 1,000 of estimated resident population
(using Areal factor given by R.G.)

Deaths from puerperal causes (childbirth):—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis	nil	nil
Other Puerperal causes	nil	nil
Total	nil	nil
(Total England and Wales 2.82.)		

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	61.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		68.4
Illegitimate „ illegitimate „		Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)...	...	8

Cockermouth Urban District.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,
for the year 1939.

The area of the district in statute acres (land and inland water) is 2,062.

RAINFALL.

Records, taken at Cockermouth Castle, 1939 —

January	...	5.25	inches of rain fell on	13	days
February	...	3.96	" "	15	"
March	...	2.21	" "	8	"
April	...	1.93	" "	8	"
May	...	.56	" "	3	"
June	...	2.68	" "	9	"
July	...	6.20	" "	16	"
August	...	2.03	" "	7	"
September	...	2.38	" "	9	"
October	...	1.13	" "	9	"
November	...	5.73	" "	18	"
December	...	1.32	" "	6	"
Total		35.38	" "	121	"

The average for ten years (1930—1939) was 36.04.

POPULATION.

Population exposed to risk.—(Figures provided by the Registrar General)—

For Birth Rates: The estimated resident population including non-civilians as at the middle of the year was 4,807 (the figure for 1938 was 4,794).

For General Death Rates and Incidence of Notifiable Disease: A population estimate constructed so as to allow for the exclusion of non-civilians during the last quarter and for the different areal assignment of deaths adopted for the first three and last quarters, respectively, was 4,985.

For Infant and Maternal Mortality Rates: Special figures are given—shown under Live Births on page 7—on which the calculations are based.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

In the Cockermouth Urban District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' Area, the number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 194, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 26 of the population, as compared with 1 in 23 for 1938, 1 in 23 for 1937, 1 in 22 for 1936, and 1 in 26 for 1935.

4 persons were admitted to Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of 1 in 1246 of the population.

The numbers for 1939 are detailed as follows:—

	Out-door Ordinary	Relief Unemployed	Total	Indoor Relief
Cockermouth U.D.	119	75	194	4
(1938)	130	80	210	4

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

Live Births.—There were 79 Live Births (41 males and 38 females) registered as belonging to the district; of these 8 (5 male and 3 females) were illegitimate.

The net live birth rate was accordingly 16.4 per 1000 of the population, compared with 15.6 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Birth Rates, 1939—Cumberland	...	15.9
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	15.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	16.6
England and Wales	...	15.0
Cockermouth Rural District	...	14.1
Cockermouth Urban District		16.4

The percentage of illegitimate live births was 10.1 as compared with 6.6 in 1938.

Still Births.—2 still births (both legitimate) were also registered giving a still birth rate of 0.41 per 1000 of the population as compared with 0.83 for 1938. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.59).

The still birth rate per 1000 total live and still births was 24.6 as compared with 50.6 for 1938.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered as belonging to Cockermouth was 77. This gives a crude death rate of 15.4 per 1000 of the population as compared with 16.06 for the previous year.

The adjusting or Area Comparability Factor, was again .84. The adjusted death rate for Cockermouth was therefore 12.9 as compared with 13.49 for 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1939.

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Males	Females
ALL CAUSES				34	43
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever					
2 Measles					
3 Scarlet fever					
4 Whooping-cough					
5 Diphtheria					
6 Influenza					2
7 Encephalitis Lethargica					
8 Cerebro-Spinal Fever					
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System...				1	1
10 Other tuberculous diseases					
11 Syphilis					
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, tabes dorsalis					
13 Cancer, malignant disease				4	4
14 Diabetes					
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.				4	10
16 Heart Disease				10	8
17 Aneurism					
18 Other Circulatory diseases				1	1
19 Bronchitis					
20 Pneumonia (all forms)				2	3
21 Other Respiratory diseases					1
22 Peptic Ulcer				1	
23 Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)					
24 Appendicitis					
25 Cirrhosis of liver					
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.					
27 Other digestive diseases				4	3
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis					3
29 Puerperal sepsis					
30 Other puerperal causes					
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.				1	1
32 Senility				1	1
33 Suicide					
34 Other Violence				1	
35 Other defined diseases				3	2
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown				1	3
Diarrhœa 2 years and over					
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)					
Small-pox					
Poliomyelitis					
Polioencephalitis					
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age					
Total				2	3
Legitimate				2	3
Illegitimate					

		M.	F.	M.	F.
		IM	etc.	B	R
Live Births—	Total	42	39	41	38
	Legitimate	37	36	36	35
	Illegitimate	5	3	5	3
STILL BIRTHS		TOTAL		1	1
		Legitimate		1	1
		Illegitimate			
Population (for Births and Deaths) 1939 R. G.					
— (a) for B.R. 4807; (b) for D.R. and incidence of notifiable disease—4,985					

Comparisons :—

	Crude	Adjusted
Death Rates, 1939—Cumberland ...	13.4	12.9
Rural Districts of Cumberland ...	13.2	12.0
Urban Districts of Cumberland ...	13.7	13.8
England and Wales ...	12.1	—
Cockermouth Rural District	12.1	11.6
Cockermouth Urban District	15.4	12.9

(For causes of death during the year see table on page 7.)

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 5 deaths (all legitimate) among infants under one year of age, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 61.7 per 1000 births as compared with 26.6 for 1938.

No death occurred among illegitimate infants, so that the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate for 1939 was nil per 1000 illegitimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of 68.4 per 1000 legitimate births. These latter rates were respectively nil and 28.5 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1939—

Cumberland ...	56
Rural Districts of Cumberland ...	55
Urban Districts of Cumberland ...	56
England and Wales ...	50
Cockermouth Rural District ...	48
Cockermouth Urban District	61.7

Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age :—

Cause of Death	under 1 wk.	2—3 weeks	Total under 4 wks	1—3 mths.	3—6 mths.	6—9 mths.	9—12 mths.	Total under 1 yr.
Acute Gastritis				1	1			2
Acute Laryngitis	1							1
Premature Birth	1							1
Congenital Debility	1							1
								5

SENILE DEATH RATE.

45 persons had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile death rate of 58.4 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 50.6 for 1938.

9 (5m 4f)	persons died between the ages of	65 and 70 years
11 (4m 7f)	„ „ „	70 and 75 years
12 (6m 6f)	„ „ „	75 and 80 years
9 (3m 6f)	„ „ „	80 and 85 years
(2m)	„ „ „	85 and 90 years
(2f)	„ „ „	aged 94 and 96 years respectively

INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year there was 1 inquest (held within the district). Inquests were also held within the district in respect of 2 non-residents.

One Coroner's certificate was received in respect of a case where post-mortem examination had been made but no inquest held.

One death was uncertified.

Violence.—With reference to the Violence death-rate of 0.20 for Cockermouth Urban District I give below a table showing the number of deaths from Suicide, 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:—

Year	SUICIDE		OTHER VIOLENCE		TOTAL VIOLENCE	
	1939	1938	1939	1938	1939	1938
Deaths	nil	1	1	3	1	4
% all causes	nil	1.29	1.29	3.89	1.29	5.19
Death rate	nil	.20	.20	.62	.20	.82

The one violence death during the year under review was due to a road accident.

CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 8 cases, as follows:—

System	Primary Organ	Males	Females	Years	
Alimentary	Bowel	1	1	64	73
	Rectum	1			59
Reproductive	Uterus		1		55
Glandular	Ovary		1		71
Integumentary	Vagina		1		62
General	Larynx	1			80
	Mediastinum	1			66
		—	—	—	
		4	4		

This number corresponds to a cancer death rate of 1.60 per 1000 of the population as compared with 2.29 in 1938.

Approximately out of every 10 deaths of persons in this district 1 was due to cancer.

TUBERCULOSIS.

(Vide also page 17)

There were 2 deaths due to Tuberculosis:—

	Males	Female
Respiratory System	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	0	0

Both were of previously notified cases in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of .40 per 1000 of the population, as compared with .62 for 1938.

The "Consumption" (i.e. Pulmonary Tuberculosis) Death rate is 0.40 per 1000 of the population, as compared with last year's figure of 0.41.

.....

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Part-time Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Wm. Nicholls, M.I.M. and C.E., A.R. San. I., who is also the Surveyor and Water Engineer.

Mr. W. F. Dodds, A.R. San. I., who, as Temporary Housing Officer left the Council's employment July, 1938, was later re-appointed as Assistant Sanitary Inspector and was here from beginning of April, 1939, until the end of the year when he left to take up another appointment.

Mr. Geo. Dawes was appointed Clerk in the Surveyor's office in November, 1939, and assisted in the duties of the department.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with investigations of certain cases of illness during the year, 1939:—

Material	Test applied for—	Result	
		Pos.	Neg.
Throat or Nose Swabs...	Diphtheria	0	4
	Hæmolytic Streptococci	1	0
Sputum	Tuberculosis	0	1
Blood	Typhoid	0	1
Cerebro-spinal Fluid	C-S. Meningitis	0	1

.....

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

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

The amount of Crummock Water used by Cockermouth Urban District during the year under review was approximately 78 million gallons.

The consumption of water per head of the population using the water was approximately 44 gallons a day.

EXTENSION OF MAIN.—390 yards of new water main (3 inch) were laid on the Windmill Lane housing estate belonging to Cockermouth Urban District Council.

The Reservoir on the Moor was cleaned out in September. The Secondary School reservoir was cleaned out in December.

The new water scheme referred to in my last three annual reports has still not materialised.

(At the time of writing the 15 inch main from Crummock Lake to Cockermouth has been scraped, resulting in an increase of pressure which the Council has considered sufficient to meet the needs for the time being, and a connexion has been made between the Workington Corporation's 21 inch main and the 15 inch main—near Oakhurst—which has been and can be put into use when required).

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewage effluent from the Outfall Works remained satisfactory. Several market gardeners continued to cart away the dried sludge for their own use free of cost.

SEWER EXTENSIONS.—The following were carried out during 1939 :—

- 170 yds. 9in. sewer, Windmill Lane Housing Estate (N. 2).
- 242 yds. 6in. sewer, Windmill Lane Housing Estate (No. 2).
- 440 yds. 6in. surface water sewer, Windmill Lane Housing Estate (No. 2).

PUBLIC LAVATORIES.—Modern public lavatories in Main Street, providing accommodation for both sexes were completed during the year and have been used since June.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The method of scavenging and removal of refuse proceeds as formerly; collection is bi-weekly.

In the Goat area night soil is removed by the Council from a few houses (all but one condemned).

REFUSE TIP (Tarn Close):—

As far as possible, with the staff available, controlled tipping is aimed at and improvement continues to be made.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The Sanitary Inspection of the district was undertaken by Mr. W. Nicholls, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor to the Council, with the help of Mr. W. F. Dodds for nine months (vide Public Health staff, page 10). There was willing co-operation at all times. I would like here to record my indebtedness to Mr. Nicholls for his assistance in the making of this report at the end of which will be found his Summary of Work done—in accordance with Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in Cockermouth Urban District at the end of 1939 and it will be seen that 69 premises were registered (included in which were 14 bakehouses) and no serious defects noted by the Sanitary Inspector who made 45 visits in all:—

Premises.	Number	Inspec- tions.	Defects Found	Written Notices.	Defects Remedied	Prose- cutions
Factories with mechanical power	15	15	0	0	0	—
Factories without do	54	30	1	0	1	—
Other Premises under Act						
Totals	69	45	1	0	1	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—The firm of Blood Driers for whom the local Justices ordered that a licence be issued on 2nd May, 1938, for twelve months, did not commence production until Summer, 1939 (Ref. my 1938 Report). Meanwhile the licence had expired but under the circumstances was renewed till May, 1940. After production started a number of persons complained of offensive smell emanating from the factory at various times, especially July to October.

There is still the Knacker and Fellmonger establishment in Waste Lane and frequent visits of inspection continue to be made to it.

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No special action under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, was taken regarding ventilation, temperature or sanitary conveniences.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Regarding the problem of the above, four houses were dealt with by spraying and fumigation, after which defective plastering, etc., was made good; there was no further complaint.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspector co-operates with officials of the County Council. Poison is available at the Health Department offices at the Town Hall free of charge. The refuse tip continues to be periodically baited with rat poison.

It is again worth while urging occupiers of all premises infested with rats or mice to take advantage of the facilities offered for the extermination of this vermin. In some instances nothing short of determined action to the extent of thoroughly ratproofing such premises will be of any avail.

Rat poison continued to be in steady demand.

During National Rat Week (6th—11th November) special efforts were made including the displaying of printed posters relating to rat infestation and destruction.

.....

Housing.

There is practically no change since my 1938 Report, though the building of the second group of 50 houses by the Council on their Windmill Lane Housing Estate was well advanced by the end of the year. (At the time of writing, it may be stated that owing to various difficulties, including weather conditions, it was not until the end of June, 1940, that some of the houses were completed and occupied).

Two new houses were built in Cockermouth in 1939 by private enterprise, viz., on Castlegate Drive.

After the submission of an Official Representation regarding 42 houses in Derwent Street the Council at their January meeting decided to invite the owners to submit reconstruction schemes; schemes were submitted and in nearly every instance were approved and the owners notified accordingly with twelve months given in which to carry out the necessary works.

[In my 1938 Report it was omitted that Closing Orders were issued on three houses, viz.:—1, Sullart Street; 7, Kirkgate, and 5, St. Helen's Street; the last-named, at the time of writing, has been reconditioned and the order removed.]

HOUSING (Rural Workers) ACT, 1926.

No houses were reconditioned under this Act during the past three years.

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	98
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	215
(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	52
(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	36

2. 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	9
---	---

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936— 0
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts: 20
- (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 10
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936— 0
4. Housing Act, 1936, Part iv., —Overcrowding:— figures not available.
No known case of overcrowding had been dealt with in 1939.

Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

There were 8 registered milksellers whose premises were within the Urban District, including 4 producers and retailers, 2 producer wholesalers, and 2 retail purveyors only. Inspections are made periodically and endeavour is made to get improvements carried out to dairy premises where necessary.

A large quantity of the town's milk supply is retailed by producer's and retailers whose premises are situated in the surrounding Rural District. There were 10 of such producers and retailers during 1939.

The following table gives the result of 47 samples of milk retailed in the town and taken by the Sanitary Inspector, and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle.

Of the above 47 samples, 14 were satisfactory and 33 unsatisfactory in relation to dirt contamination, as follows:—

	Satisfactory according to Accredited Standard	Unsatisfactory according to Accredited Standard.	Total
Samples produced in Urban District	4	15	19
„ „ outside „	10	18	28
	14	33	47

The 33 unsatisfactory samples comprised:—

- 14 failing the Methyline Blue Reduction test only (7 being borderline cases);
- 14 failing B. Coli test only (i.e. showing B. Coli in 2 or 3 tubes out of 3, and
- 15 failing Combined tests.

It is satisfactory to report that no sample was found to contain tubercle bacilli.

Where results are unsatisfactory as to cleanliness endeavour is made to secure improvement. On a sample of milk being reported as tubercular, investigation is made by officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. I am kindly informed by Mr. John Cameron, Divisional Inspector of that Authority, that in so far as the Urban District of Cockermouth was concerned, no cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, during the year under review.

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

The production and retailing of milk under "Special Designation" in the Cockermouth Urban District in 1939 was as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested.—John Cook, Fitz Road—Retailer.
Cockermouth Dairy Co., Ltd.—Retailer.
Accredited.—J. Simpson, Dovenby Craggs—Retailer.
Isaac Cook, Strawberry Howe—Producer.
Wm. Cook, Annfield—Producer and Retailer.
J. Wright, Croft House, Brigham—Producer and Retailer.
J. Christopherson, Sneckyeat—Producer and Retailer.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter-Houses.—There were 2 Private Slaughter-Houses (both registered), and the Council's Public Abattoir. Frequent inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspector, who informs me that the following were condemned as unfit for human consumption during 1939:—2 whole bovine carcasses, 1 forequarter of beef, 12 lungs and 1 head (bovine), 8 livers (6 bovine and 2 sheep), 4st. kippers and 2st. codling—all voluntarily surrendered.

The date for the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, coming into force was October 1st, 1939. Under this Act, in due course, slaughter-houses will have to be surveyed and brought up to the required standard where necessary. (From January 14th, 1940, the Ministry of Health suspended all slaughtering in private slaughter-houses, as a war-time measure, and this work has since been carried out in regional abattoirs).

In the Cockermouth Urban District there were 10 slaughtermen licensed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Bakehouses.—These are occasionally inspected. There are still 14 altogether, of which 5 are considered domestic in type. No serious defects are reported.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1939, in the Cockermouth Urban District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis was 14. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (vide post) the number was 12. (The figure for 1938 was 10).

Four of these were notifications of Tuberculosis.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1939.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases notified 1939 admitted to hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	8 (Ages—3, 5, 6, 6, 7, 10, 10 and 17 years)	4	0
Measles	2	0	0
Erysipelas ...	1	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	0	0
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary	Males	0 (San.)	0
	Females	2 "	0
	Total	2 "	0
Non-Pulmonary	Males	0	0
	Females	0	0
	Total	0	0

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable diseases, 1939 :—

Disease	Jan	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May.	J'ne	July	Aug	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	2	1	2	1						2			8
Erysipelas												1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia												1	1
Measles (from 1st Nov.)											1	1	2
Tuberculosis :													
Pulmonary					1				1				2
Other Forms													0

From notifications received it is deduced that one in every 415 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act and the Tuberculosis Regulations (Measles, Whooping Cough, and Chickenpox excluded). Last year's figures : 1 in 479.

Eight cases of Scarlet Fever was notified, four being removed to Ellerbeck Infectious Diseases Hospital, Workington, with complete recovery. The case rate per 1000 of the population was therefore, 1.6, and the death rate nil as compared with .83 and nil in 1938. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1939) were 1.89 and .01.

Up to the end of 1939 no case of Diphtheria was notified since 1936 and no death recorded. The case and death rates per 1000 of the population were, therefore, nil. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1939) were 1.14 and .05.

There were, again, no notifications of Typhoid (including Para-typhoid) Fever, Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis, or Encephalitis Lethargica.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—One notification. The rate for Puerperal Pyrexia (including Puerperal Fever) is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate is:—Puerperal Pyrexia 12.3 per 1000 total births (i.e. live and still births). The corresponding rate (1939) for England and Wales was 14.35.

There were again no Maternal deaths—corresponding, therefore, to a Maternal Mortality Rate of nil per 1000 total (live and still) births—the same as in the four previous years. The rate (1939) for England and Wales was 2.82.

Pneumonia.—Although no notifications were received it may be mentioned that 5 deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) were registered.

Tuberculosis.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 2 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (both females) but nil of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified.

Both cases—notified during the year—were admitted to Sanatorium. Two (pulmonary female) cases notified previous to 1939, were re-admitted to Sanatorium.

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases) during 1939:—

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

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 9.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1939 was as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ..	3	9	12
Non-pulmonary ..	—	2	2
	—	—	—
All Cases ..	3	11	14

No action has been required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relates to powers regarding persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the respiratory tract, and in an infectious state, and employed in connexion with a dairy or the handling of milk or milk vessels.

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

No action has been taken with regard to the use of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and scarlet fever, and no immunisation scheme has been carried out.

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.—Epidemics usually occur in conjunction with epidemics in the districts adjoining.

Influenza was prevalent near the beginning and towards the end of the year. Two deaths occurred, corresponding to an Influenza death-rate of .40 per 1000 of the population as compared with .41 in 1938. The rate (1939) for all England and Wales was .21.

Under Special Regulations of the Ministry of Health, Measles and Whooping Cough were added to the list of notifiable diseases as from 1st November, 1939. The first-named was beginning to be prevalent near the middle of December. No death occurred from either disease so that the death rates were, respectively, nil per 1000 of the population. (England and Wales—Measles .01, Whooping Cough .03).

SUMMARY
OF
WORK DONE BY SANITARY INSPECTOR
During the Year 1939.

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical
Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article xix. of the
Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926.

NUISANCES:

Nuisances reported to Council	...	1
Notices served after inspection	...	17
Notices complied with	...	16

Detailed Sanitary Work:

Choked drains, defective I.C.'s and gullies	...	5
Damp and defective roof, etc.	...	4
Additional W.C.'s (including 7 public)	...	9
New Bathrooms	...	2
Housing Inspections	...	230
Factories Inspections	...	45
Meat Inspections at Slaughter-houses	approx.	120
Dairies and Cowsheds Inspections	...	10
Visits to Knackery	...	12
Visits re Infectious Diseases (including Disinfections)	...	10

Plans were approved during 1939 for the following:—

Alterations to shop and proposed bathroom at Cocker Bridge for
Lowther Estates.

Cowshed at Southwaite for W. H. Parkin.

New Lavatories at South Street for Brash Bros., Ltd.

Petrol Tank in Lorton Street for J. A. O. Pain.

Offices in Challoner Street for L. H. Wilson.

Bathroom at 7, Henry Street for H. J. Wilson.

Garage at Lorton Road for J. Wilson.

Garage at 26, Brigham Road for J. Holliday.

Garage and Store in Main Street for Electricity House Ltd.

Garage at Castle Drive for Nursing Association.

Two Semi-detached Houses in Fitz Road for T. Armstrong and Co.

Garage at 27, Castle Drive for J. Spark.

Warehouse in Station Street for Sealby Bros.

Garage in Station Street for Cumberland Motor Services Ltd.

WM. NICHOLLS.

M.I.M. & C.E., A.R. San. I.,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

