

[Report 1921] / Medical Officer of Health, South Westmorland R.D.C.

Contributors

South Westmorland (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1921

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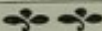


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183 Euston Road
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T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
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RURAL DISTRICT
OF
SOUTH WESTMORLAND.

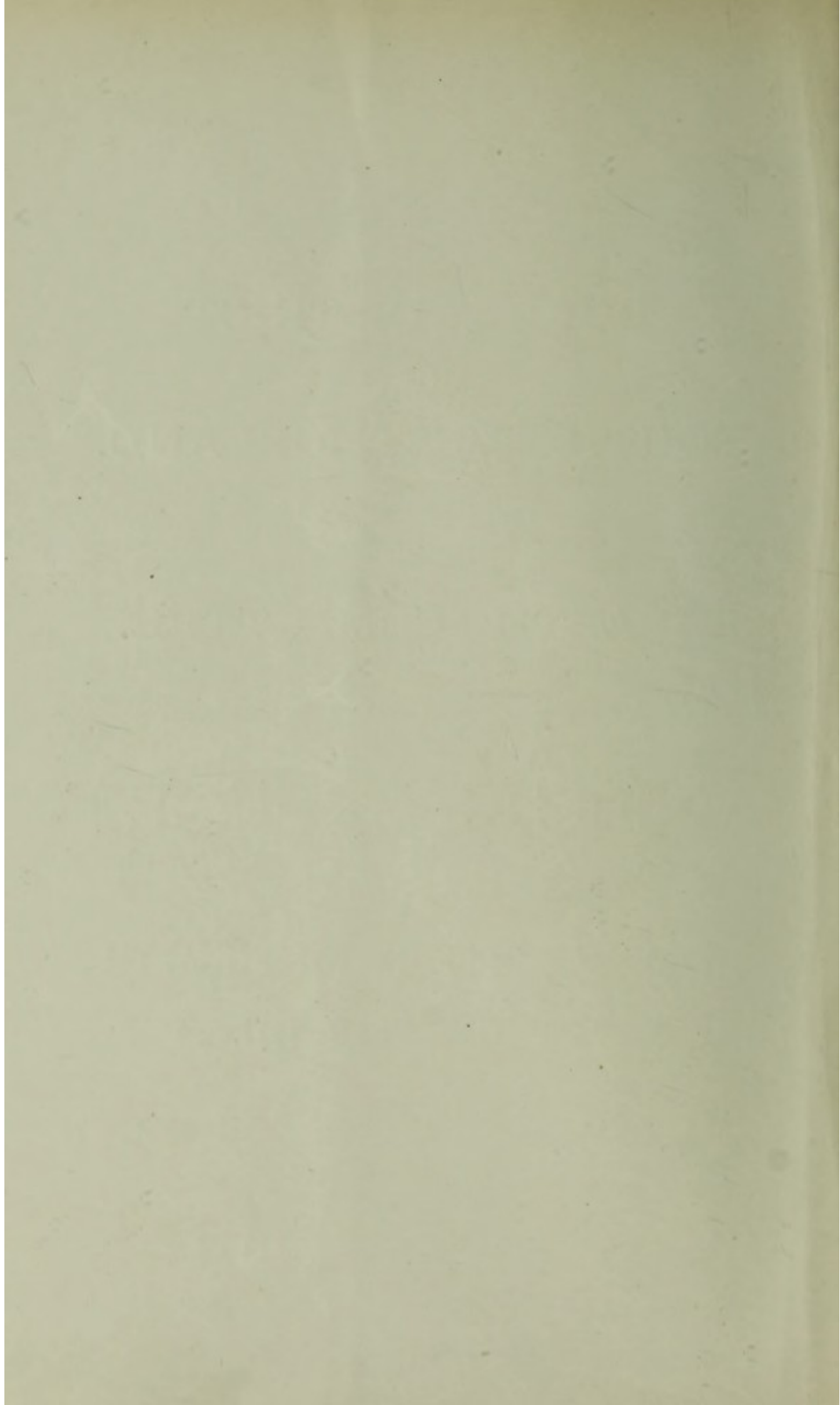


HEALTH COMMITTEE.

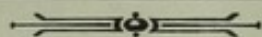


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1921.



To the Chairman and Members of the South
Westmorland Rural District Council.



GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report for the year, 1921, prepared in accordance with your instructions and those of the Ministry of Health.

I wish to express my indebtedness to your Officials for their continued courtesies, but especially to the Sanitary Inspector and the Assistant Sanitary Inspector for their excellent services and for their assistance in much of the statistical portion of this report.

The Members of the Medical Profession have afforded me much help in my general duties and my heartiest thanks are offered to them.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. BARON COCKILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

March 27th, 1922.

1870

...

...

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	...	...	169,702
Population (census, 1921)	...	...	19,395
Number of Inhabited Houses (census, 1921) ...			} Not available.
Number of Families or separate Occupiers (census, 1921)	...	...
Rateable Value	...	...	£206,444
Assessable Value	...	...	£166,246
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	£693

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Births—Legitimate	310	148	162	} Birth Rate (R.G.) 17·6
„ Illegitimate	15	7	8	
Deaths, 207	...		...	Death Rate (R.G.) 11·2
Number of women dying in, or in consequence				
of child-birth	...		...	from Sepsis ... 1
Ditto.	...		...	from other causes, 1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age, per 1000 births :—				
Legitimate, 64.		Illegitimate, 200.	...	Total, 70.
Deaths from Measles (all ages), 0.				
„ Whooping Cough (all ages), 0.				
„ Diarrhoea (under two years), 2.				
There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.				

There were no cases of deaths from Tuberculosis, where the disease had not previously been notified.

The notification of known cases of Tuberculosis has invariably been carried out.

There was one case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum which was treated at home, and no impairment of vision resulted.

An imported case of Scarlet Fever resulted in an epidemic outbreak in Crosthwaite and Lyth. This disease appeared in epidemic form also in Staveley.

A heavy incidental death rate is recorded in Pneumonia, no less than 66 per cent. of the notified cases terminating fatally.

4.—CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

There have been no specially noteworthy causes of sickness and invalidity in the district.

5.—SUMMARY OF NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITAL & OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

- (a) General ... District Nursing Associations.
- (b) Infectious Diseases, e.g.
Measles, etc. ... " "

District Nursing Associations are voluntary organisations receiving grants in aid from the County Council.

Midwives.—No subsidy is paid by the Public Health Authority to the four practising midwives.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Tuberculosis Dispensary at Kendal.

Travelling School Dental Clinic.

Hospitals provided and subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

Hospital.	Situation.	Acco'dation.
Tuberculosis	... Meathop, Grange-o-Sands	... 150 beds.
Maternity & Children	... Nil.	
Fever	... The Sanatorium, Kendal	... 46 beds.
Small-pox	... Woodside, near Kendal	... 50 beds.
Ethel Hedley Hospital	... Calgarth, Windermere	... 30 beds.
School (Orthopædic)		

Venereal Disease ... North Lonsdale Hospital, ...
Barrow-in-Furness

The Westmorland County Hospital contains 50 beds available for all non-infectious medical, surgical and abnormal midwifery cases. It is supported by voluntary contributions. Cases are also admitted to Lancaster Infirmary from the Southern part of the district.

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, etc.

St. Monica's Maternity Home, under the control of Carlisle Diocesan Maternity Committee.

Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) Infectious Cases. Removed by the Kendal Ambulance.
(b) Non ,, St. John Ambulance Brigade.

6.—LABORATORY WORK.

The combined districts of Westmorland have provided laboratories at Kendal, to which any Practitioner may send specimens for examination. Sputum is also examined at Meathop Sanatorium. The following have been done for South Westmorland:—

Diphtheria	Bacteriological.									Physical and Chemical.						Totals.
	Tubercule.		Blood.			Gonococcus	Dysentery	Organisms	Water (B. Coli.)	Urine.		Anaemia	Ringworm	Water.		
	Sputum	Urine	Malaria	Enteric Fever	Infectious					Scarlet Fever	Deposits			Deposits	Analyses	
140	20	2	24	1	2	1	1	1	19	7	1	1	1	1	18	240

Diphtheria Antitoxin is issued free for the treatment of all necessitous cases, excepting patients under the National Health Insurance Act; also for both necessitous and insured patients for prophylactic purposes.

7.—SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Local Acts.—The following Acts are in operation :—

	Adopted.
Part 3—Sanitary Clauses of Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	1891
Sec. 27—Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (for Arnside)	1914
Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890	1891 & 1902
Part 5—Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907	1921
<i>Bye-laws are in force throughout the district for :—</i>	
New Streets and Buildings	1916
Tents and Vans	1912
Regulations under Sec. 13, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1885	1890
<i>At Arnside, for :—</i>	
Slaughter-houses	1885
Private Scavenging	1885
Prevention of Nuisances	1885
New Streets and Buildings	1885 & 1921
Drainage of existing Buildings	1921
In 32 Parishes for :—Slaughter-houses	1875

The administration of these is effectively carried out.

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Department.

The defects and nuisances found consisted of :—

Water supplies unsatisfactory	30
Closet accommodation	44
Yards defective	3
Drainage defective	77
Number of rooms deficient in light	33
" " ventilation	330
Pantries unventilated	5
Houses where rooms were damp	117
Houses with defective floors	19
Houses with other defects	177
Cowsheds requiring lime-washing	3
Workshops requiring lime-washing	1
Total	839

The number of informal requests for defects to be remedied were	314
Statutory Notices served in the case of	24

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are 641 water closets and 3552 earth closets remaining in the district.

18 privies were converted to water closets during the year.

There are 87 ashbins in the district. 2 conversions from ash-pits to ashbins have been made.

Regular inspection of Slaughter-houses and Cowsheds, has been made, and the sanitary condition of all premises where food is prepared, stored, or exposed for sale, is good.

Number of private Slaughter-houses, 9, and all have been found satisfactory. There is no public Slaughter-house.

Disinfection with formalin after infectious disease was carried out in 71 rooms in 58 houses.

Bedding and clothing, etc., are disinfected when required in the steam disinfector at the Kendal Sanatorium.

There is no cleansing station.

There has been no action taken under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order.

Public enquiries, by the Ministry of Health, were held in two instances, and both applications granted :—

- 1.—Leave to purchase Lupton Row Farm and Tarn for the purpose of augmenting the water supply to the district.
- 2.—For a new sewerage scheme at Holme. The construction of this has been begun and will be finished before very long.

An auxiliary water supply, by meter, to Natland and Helmside, has been established, by connection with the Manchester Corporation supply from Thirlmere.

Communication was made with all the retailers of Shaving Brushes, drawing attention to the possibility of Anthrax infection from this source.

A pamphlet on "Encephalitis Lethargica" was supplied to all Medical Practitioners.

8.—PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Name.	Qualifications.	Office.	Whole or part time.	Other Offices.	Salary Contributed under P.H. Act or Exchequer Grants.
W. B. Cockill ...	M.D., etc. D.P.H.	Med. Officer of Health.	Part	Med. Officer of Health Westmorland Comb. Dist.	Yes
R. Dobson ...	Certificate R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.	Whole		Yes
H. G. Hunter ...		Asst. Sanitary Inspector.	Whole		Yes

9.—HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	...	...	16
(b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	...	...	6

1.—Unfit Dwelling-Houses.

Inspection.	(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	532
(2).	Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	472
(3).	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous, or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation		1
(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	...	309

2.—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	185
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3.—*Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under sec. 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919		Nil.
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—				
(1).	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied			23
(2).	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—			
	(a) By Owners	...	...	20
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners			Nil.
C.—Proceedings under sections 17 & 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909.				
(1).	Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	..	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	1
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	...	...	2
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	Nil.
(5)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	Nil.

