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Contributors

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF ULVERSTON.

ANNUAL ———

————— REPORT

... OF THE ...

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

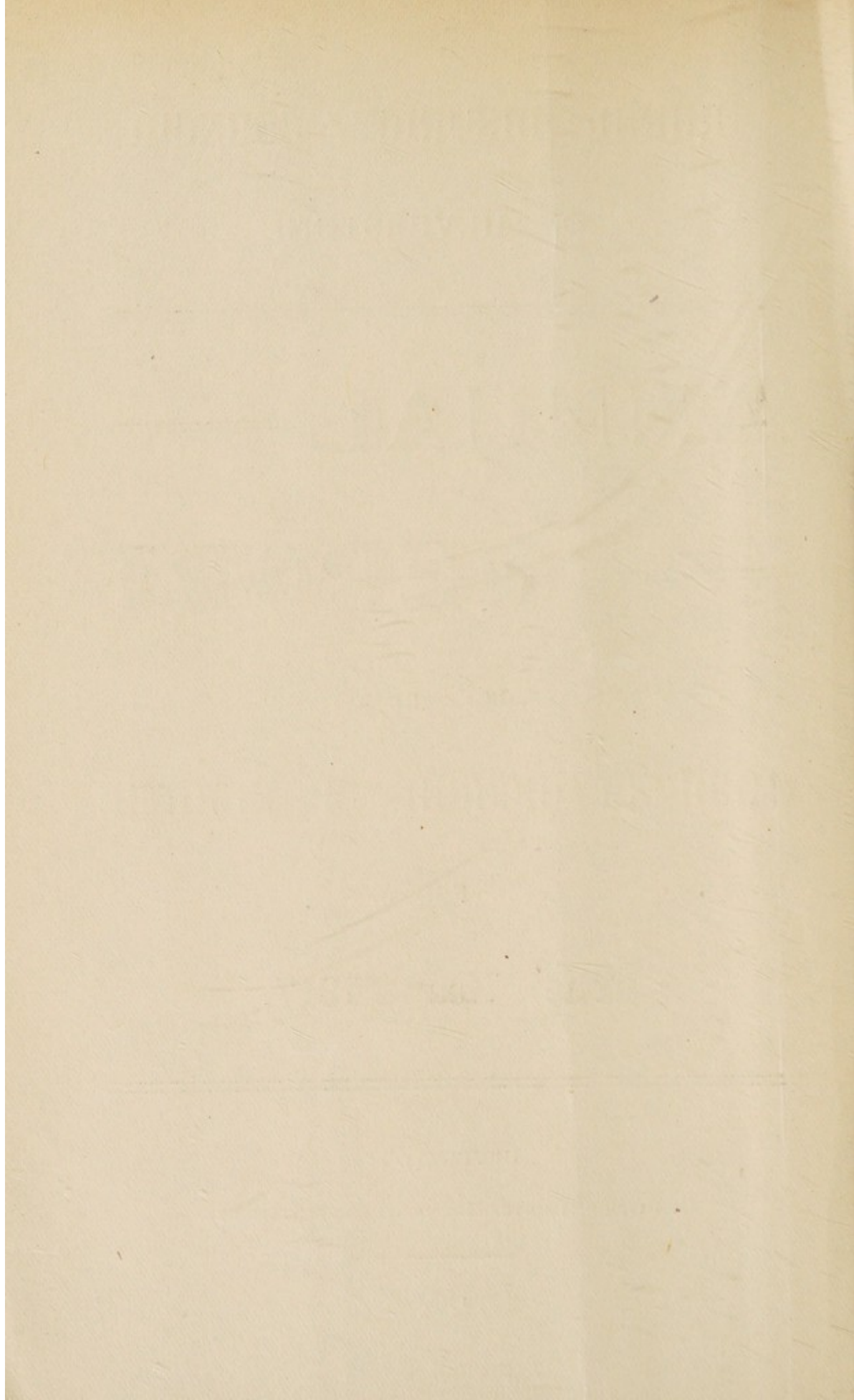
... FOR ...

The Year 1917.

ULVERSTON :

H. KITCHIN, PRINTER, BOOKBINDER AND STATIONER.

1918.



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RURAL DISTRICT OF ULVERSTON.

TOWN HALL,

ULVERSTON,

FEBRUARY, 1918.

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

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my report on the Public Health work of the Council during the past year.

As usual I have arranged the report in divisional order, but by direction of the Local Government Board I am precluded from inserting the customary tabulated statements.

CARTMEL DIVISION.

WATER SUPPLY.

CARTMEL DISTRICT.—During the year the Cartmel Divisional Committee have devoted much time and thought to the question of augmenting the water supply to the Cartmel Valley, having regard especially to the probable increased demands consequent upon the erection of the Garden Village at Mireside, Flookburgh and the establishment of the intended Air Station.

Owing to the Admiralty instructions, the work on the Air Station has been suspended, and no houses in excess of the 120 which were nearing completion at the close of the year, will be erected until the cessation of hostilities. The altered position will probably simplify the arrangements which the Council may have to make in order to secure an

increased supply of water, and as the subject is constantly in the mind of the Committee, who have retained the services of a fully competent Engineer, it is not necessary for me to pursue the question further.

BACKBARROW.—During the year a small extension of the water supply at Backbarrow has been carried out.

DRAINAGE.

Owing to the war, no scheme of drainage has been proposed, but, without doubt, the Divisional Committee will resume their consideration of the important matter of the sewerage of Lindale.

HAWKSHEAD DIVISION.

WATER SUPPLY.

COLTON.—(**BACKBARROW AND HAVERTHWAITE**). In the previous year's reports I ventured to suggest that those who very kindly offered to subscribe towards the cost of a scheme of water supply for Backbarrow in Colton and Haverthwaite might be induced to invest the money in War Loan, in trust, and on the understanding that the scheme will be carried out immediately after the war. On all hands we hear and read of schemes of reconstruction, and I should fail in my duty as the responsible Health Officer, if I neglected to point out, as I have consistently done, for some time past, the need of an adequate and efficient public water supply for the two villages in question.

HIGH FURNESS.

WATER SUPPLY.

BURLINGTON SCHOOLS.—The water supply to Burlington Elementary Schools is still unsatisfactory, and as apparently the Divisional Committee are reluctant to extend the water mains at the expense of the Township and the School Managers are unable to defray two thirds of the cost, I would, on this occasion, suggest that the County Education Committee should be approached.

LOW FURNESS DIVISION.

WATER SUPPLY.

The necessity for schemes of water supply for Leece, Dendron, Greenodd and Penny Bridge still exists but, of course, nothing beyond the drafting of schemes which I hope may not be lost sight of can be done under present National conditions.

DRAINAGE GENERALLY.

The drainage of Allithwaite, Cartmel Town, Soutergate (main scheme) and Great and Little Urswick, are only, here, noted for the purpose of keeping them in the minds of the Council.

GENERAL.

The Council have found that the removal of house refuse is somewhat expensive. This is inevitable in a rural district, particularly so, at the present time when costs of every kind are enhanced, but I venture to suggest that the work has contributed very largely to the health and comfort of those who reside in the villages where the work is undertaken by the Council. I think it is worth while for the Council to seriously consider whether it would not lead to efficiency and economy if fewer and larger depots were established, motor transport employed and the removal carried out on more systematic lines by employees of the Council.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS. Although the dairies and cowsheds in the area have been subject to regular inspection, I fear, I cannot congratulate the Council on any progress which has been made by way of amending the structural condition of the sheds which I have mentioned in previous annual reports as leaving very much to be desired, nor am I sanguine of great improvement in this respect under the existing circumstances of increased prices of material and the great shortage of building labour.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING &c. ACT, 1909.

I give herewith a table of the inspections which have been made in the four Divisions under the provisions of this Act.

	1917.	1916.
Cartmel ...	62	104
Hawkshead	73	72
High Furness ...	96	79
Low Furness ...	88	94
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	319	349

Although these inspections have been made and have entailed an expenditure of a considerable amount of time and labour I cannot say that the results so far would appear to justify the expenditure in so far as the remedying of sanitary defects is concerned, nevertheless, the reports which are filed, must in the future, form a valuable record of the sanitary condition of every house in the district when the work has been completed.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.—No doubt the population has undergone some changes during the years that the war has been in progress. Many young men have joined the army and left the district and many others have come into the district to engage in war work, and I should say that the two would fairly balance each other, so that the calculations made on the next few pages cannot be very much in error if based on the population as enumerated at the last census

BIRTHS.—The births registered during the year have numbered 310 equal to a birth-rate of 18·2 per thousand. In the year 1916 there were 332 births registered, the birth-rate then being 18·7 per 1000.

DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS.

	MALE.	FEMALE.	TOTAL.	RATE PER 1000.
Cartmel	41	31	72	16.3
Hawkshead	28	19	47	13.5
High Furness	42	45	87	20.7
Low Furness	43	56	104	21.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	159	151	310	18.2

It will be seen that there has been a decrease of 22 in the number of births as compared with the previous year. There have been 16 illegitimate births.

DEATHS.—The total number of deaths registered in the district has been 208, from this number 16 deaths of non-residents, which have been transferred, must be deducted, and 14 deaths of residents dying outside the district must be added which gives a nett return of 206 deaths and is equal to a death rate of 12·1 per 1000. In the year 1916 there were 259, equal to a death-rate of 14·6 per 1000.

DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Rate per 1000.
Cartmel	33	21	54	12·2
Hawkshead	22	20	42	12·1
High Furness	23	23	46	10·9
Low Furness	35	29	64	12·9
Totals	113	93	206	12·1

INFANTILE DEATHS.—In Infants under one year old there have been 20 deaths, and this equals an infantile death-rate of 64·5 per 1000 births; in the year 1916 there were 27 deaths of Infants, the death-rate being 81·3 per 1000 births.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE INFANTILE DEATHS.

	Infantile Deaths.	Infantile Death-rate.
Cartmel ...	3	41·6
Hawkshead	4	85·1
High Furness	4	45·9
Low Furness	9	86·5
	20	64·5

CAUSES OF INFANTILE DEATHS.

Bronchitis	...	3
Tetanus	...	1
Congenital Defects	...	3

Convulsions	...	...	2
Premature Births	...	...	4
Pneumonia	...	...	2
Meningitis	...	...	1
Obstruction	...	...	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	1
Syphilis ...	...	...	1
Other Causes	...	...	1
			<hr/>
			20

There has been a death of an illegitimate infant.

Looking at the above list it would be difficult to say to what extent the deaths might have been prevented, but I do not think I could be fairly accused of exaggeration if I say, at least 50 per cent. of the deaths are due to preventable causes. And although a great deal has been accomplished in the past in the direction of prevention, much remains to be done in the future, and I need scarcely indicate on what lines we shall have to work, as they are so very obvious.

In the Urban Districts of Ulverston and Dalton-in-Furness the County Council has established Infant Welfare Centres and appointed a trained nurse who is also a qualified Sanitary Inspector and Certificated Midwife to undertake the work of inspection, and the success of the work, so far as it has gone, has been sufficient to justify me in hoping that it will shortly be extended to the rural districts.

In persons over 65 years of age there have been 102 deaths as compared with 119 in the year 1916, and these have occurred as under:—

Cartmel...	...	...	30
Hawkshead	...	...	20
High Furness	...	...	21
Low Furness	...	...	31
			<hr/>
Total			102

PHTHISIS.—From this disease there have been two deaths in the Cartmel Division, 4 in Hawkshead, 5 in High Furness, and 1 in Low Furness, making a total of 12, as against 17 in the previous year.

CANCER.—Twenty-two deaths have arisen from Cancer of various organs, 6 in the Cartmel Division, 2 in Hawkshead, 7 in High Furness, and 7 in Low Furness, in the year 1916 there were 17 deaths from Cancer.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.—From diseases under this heading, there have been 6 deaths, which is equal to a death-rate of '35 per 1000, two of these have occurred from Scarlet Fever, 1 from Measles, and three from Diarrhœa.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In looking through my records I find that the following cases of notifiable diseases have been reported:—

	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Typh- oid Fever.	Ery- sip- elas.	Ophth- almia.	Polio- myelitis.	Phth- isis.	Tuber- culosis.	Measles.	Total.
Cartmel	2	5	2	8		1	4	2	113	137
Hawkshead	9				1		6		37	53
High Furness	8	3		1			5		38	55
Low Furness	16	1	1	4	1		6		33	62
Totals	35	9	3	13	2	1	21	2	221	307

SCARLET FEVER.—As will be observed from the above table, this disease has not been really epidemic in any part of the district, the largest number of cases having come from the Low Furness Division, and in a sporadic form.

DIPHTHERIA.—Only nine cases of Diphtheria have been notified, and the outbreaks of the disease were never more than of a sporadic character.

TYPHOID FEVER.—In my monthly report to the Cartmel Divisional Committee I spoke of the outbreak of Typhoid Fever which occurred in the village of Lindale-in-Cartmel, in September, and urged the necessity for proceeding as speedily as possible with the contemplated sewage scheme, but I presume, that whatever may happen, it will be impossible to obtain the consent of the Local Government Board to the contracting of a loan until after the conclusion of the war.

MEASLES.—This disease prevailed pretty extensively in the district during the year, especially did the Cartmel Division suffer, and it was deemed advisable to close the Browedge Schools in January, the Allithwaite Schools in February, and the Holker and Flookburgh Schools in June, besides which the Haverthwaite, Coniston, Bardsea, and Pennybridge Schools were closed on account of outbreaks.

Before concluding my report I should like to thank all my colleagues for their ever ready co-operation and assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

G. H. PATTERSON,

L.R.C.P. LOND., M.R.C.S. ENG., D.P.H. LOND.

Medical Officer of Health.

4th March, 1918

Combined District of Ulverston.

ULVERSTON RURAL DISTRICT.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

For the year ending 31st December, 1917.

	Cartmel Division.	Hawks- head Division.	High Furness Division.	Low Furness Division.
Complaints received	10	5	6	12
Houses and premises inspected ..	360	280	450	490
Common lodging-houses inspected ..	..	..	..	..
Common lodging-houses registered ..	..	..	..	..
Cases of over-crowding reported ..	1	..	..	2
Orders issued for sanitary improvements	6	3	3	11
Plans approved .. ..	..	..	..	..
Houses and premises repaired, cleansed, or whitewashed .. ..	..	..	..	3
Houses disinfected after infectious diseases	12	8	16	17
Cases of bedding and clothing destroyed	..	..	..	..
Privy accommodation provided ..	..	..	..	..
Privies cleansed or repaired	2	..	1	6
Sewage tanks cleansed	5	4	2	7
Water-closets substituted for privies ..	4	..	3	6
Ashpits or middensteads emptied ..	1244	225	213	731
Ashpits or middensteads repaired ..	5	..	1	7
Removal of accumulations of refuse or other offensive matters .. ..	..	..	..	..
Removal of animals improperly kept ..	2	..	..	..
Drains trapped, ventilated, or repaired	7	4	5	9
Orders issued for protection or improve- ment of water supply	4	..	2	3
Wells closed .. ..	..	..	..	1
Seizures of unwholesome food .. ..	..	..	..	..
Slaughter-house inspections	30	20	20	30
Slaughter-houses registered	6	4	5	5
Bakehouses inspected	6	3	4	2
Legal proceedings .. ..	..	..	..	..
Inspections under Factory and Work- shops Act	92	47	48	68
No. of dairies and cowsheds on register	29	23	22	68
Dairies and cowsheds inspections ..	103	81	78	256
Schools disinfected .. ..	..	..	1	..
No. of W.C's. in district	83	161	229	229
No. of privies	902	672	382	891

General District of Livingston

LIVESTOCK RENTAL DISTRICT

REPORT ON RAILWAY LASHES

For the year ending 31st December 1912

The following table shows the number of railway lashes used in the district during the year ending 31st December 1912.

The number of railway lashes used in the district during the year ending 31st December 1912 was 1,234.

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