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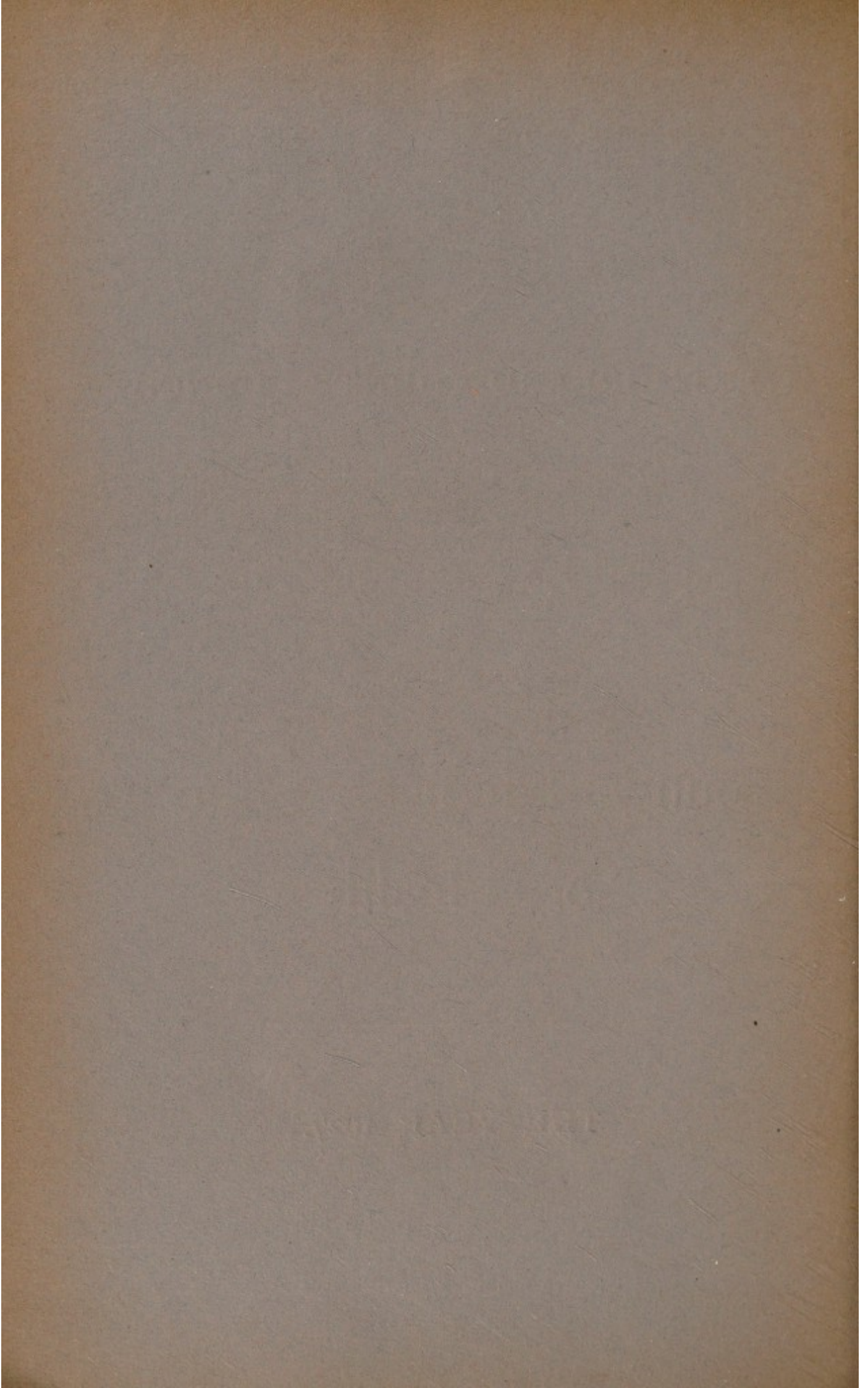
WESTMORLAND COUNTY COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

County Medical Officer
of Health.

THE YEAR 1927.





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County of Westmorland.

Public Health and Housing Committee of the County Council

Chairman: MR. J. W. CROPPER.

Messrs. LORD HENRY BENTINCK.

DR. J. L. COCHRANE.

W. D. CREWDSON,

J. CROSBY,

R. W. DENT,

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G. H. PATTINSON,

G. N. PATTINSON,

H. A. T. SHEPHERD,

W. STALKER,

G. E. THOMPSON.

E. W. WAKEFIELD.

W. H. WALLACE.

District Medical Officer of Health.

<i>Name.</i>	<i>Urban District.</i>
W. BARON COCKILL, M.D., D.P.H.	... AMBLESIDE.
" " "	... APPLEBY.
" " "	... GRASMERE.
" " "	... KENDAL.
" " "	... KIRKBY LONSDALE.
" " "	... SHAP.
" " "	... WINDERMERE.
	<i>Rural District.</i>
" " "	... EAST
	WESTMORLAND.
" " "	... SOUTH
	WESTMORLAND.
" " "	... WEST WARD.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and
Housing Committee.**

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the following Annual Report on the Health of the Administrative County during the year 1927.

Summary of Vital Statistics.

	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	England & Wales.
*Birth Rate	18.3	17.6	16.98	15.84	16.8	16.1	16.7
†Infantile Mortality Rate	58	60	67.6	46	54.8	53	69
*Net Death Rate ..	13.1	12.3	14.76	13.68	12.04	13.6	12.3
*Tuberculosis Death Rate (Respiratory System)	0.59	0.39	0.59	0.67	0.54	0.75	0.79

* Per 1,000 population.

† Per 1,000 births.

General Statistics.

Area (acres)	504,917
Population (Reg. Gen. estimate 1927)	61,909
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	14,460
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	14,648
Rateable Value (1927)	£669,494 10 0
Net Assessable Value (1927)	£465,350
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,938 19 2

ESTIMATED POPULATION FOR 1927.

The population for the Year 1927, as estimated by the Registrar-General, will be found in the following Table:—

DISTRICT.	Area in Acres: (Land and Inland Water).	Population. Registrar General's estimate for 1927.
URBAN.		
Ambleside ...	4,425	2,293
Appleby	1,877	1,541
Grasmere	7,333	879
Kendal	2,700	14,100
Kirkby Lonsdale	3,254	1,190
Shap	2,081	1,029
Windermere ...	9,902	5,147
RURAL.		
East Westmorland	183,771	10,980
South Westmorland	169,702	18,660
West Ward ...	119,872	6,090
Westmorland ...	504,917	61,909

BIRTH RATE, 1927.

Birth Rate per 1,000 population.

District.	No. of Births 1927.	Birth Rate 1927.	Birth Rate 1926.	Birth Rate 1925.	Birth Rate 1924.	Birth Rate 1923.
Urban.						
Ambleside	19	8.2	13.7	14.9	12.3	11.0
Appleby	22	14.2	8.3	11.6	14.6	17.5
Grasmere	11	12.6	12.7	11.3	16.1	18.0
Kendal	243	17.2	17.6	16.6	19.4	17.4
Kirkby Lonsdale ..	19	15.9	11.5	13.4	14.5	18.1
Shap	29	28.1	21.5	21.0	22.0	26.0
Windermere	84	16.3	12.8	10.3	14.1	12.3
Rural.						
East Westmorland ..	186	16.9	19.9	19.0	20.2	21.5
South Westmorland	290	15.5	14.9	15.2	14.7	17.1
West Ward	92	15.1	25.4	15.8	16.9	18.1
Westmorland	995	16.1	16.8	15.8	16.9	17.6
England & Wales ..		16.7	17.8	18.3	18.8	19.7

The births registered in the above 5 years were as follows:—

Year	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
No. of Births	1,098	1,060	986	1058	995

In the Urban Districts Shap leads with a rate of 28.1, followed by Kendal 17.2, Windermere 16.3, Kirkby Lonsdale 15.9.

In the Rural Districts, East Westmorland has resumed its lead over the West Ward.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.

The illegitimate births numbered 55 which yields a rate per 1,000 total births of 55. In the Urban Districts the rate was 60, and in the Rural Districts 51.

Death Rates, 1927.

NET DEATH RATES PER 1000 POPULATION.

District:	No. of Deaths 1927.	Death Rate 1927.	Death Rate 1926	Death Rate 1925.	Death Rate 1924.	Death Rate. 1923.
Urban.						
Ambleside	26	11.3	12.4	9.6	12.7	12.3
Appleby	29	18.8	11.6	20.2	15.8	15.1
Grasmere	13	14.9	18.4	12.5	8.0	11.4
Kendal	205	14.5	12.9	15.7	15.3	13.0
Kirkby Lonsdale	19	15.9	11.5	10.3	14.5	14.9
Shap	9	8.7	21.5	23.0	20.9	9.0
Windermere	80	15.5	8.7	12.6	13.6	10.0
Rural.						
East Westmorland	131	12.0	11.0	12.7	16.5	13.3
South Westmorland	243	13.2	13.0	10.8	14.5	12.5
West Ward	89	14.6	9.5	14.0	12.4	10.2
Westmorland	844	13.6	12.04	13.1	14.7	12.3
England & Wales	—	12.3	11.6	12.2	12.2	11.6

Examination of the causes of the 844 deaths registered in 1927, shows that the chief diseases in order of fatality were as follows :—

Disease.	No. of Deaths. 1927.	Average. 1921-1925.
Heart Disease ...	153	138
Cancer ...	107	97
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ...	70	72
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	47	37
Arterio-Sclerosis ...	37	29
Deaths from Violence (excluding Suicide) ...	36	20
Influenza ...	36	29
Bronchitis ...	36	45
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	35	38
Congenital Debility and Prematurity ...	30	36
Nephritis, acute and chronic ...	20	25

Infantile Mortality, 1927.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS.

DISTRICT.	No. of Births in 1927	No. of Deaths in 1927.	Infant Mortality Rate in 1927.	Infant Mortality Rate in 1926.	Infant Mortality Rate in 1925.	Infant Mortality Rate in 1924.	Infant Mortality Rate in 1923.
Urban.							
Ambleside	19	0	0	32	29	0	77
Appleby	22	1	45	0	0	41.6	0
Grasmere	11	0	0	0	0	71.4	0
Kendal	243	25	103	85	76	104.6	84.6
Kirkby Lonsdale	19	2	105	0	66	52.6	83.3
Shap	29	2	69	48	95	0	38.4
Windermere	84	1	12	29	19	53.3	30.7
Rural.							
E. Westmorland	186	10	54	68	43	81	55.5
S. Westmorland....	290	8	27	54	40	54.3	62.5
West Ward	92	4	43	19	34	29.1	45.4
Westmorland	995	53	53.2	54.8	46.6	67.9	60.1
England & Wales	—	—	69	70	75	75	69

The Infantile Mortality Rate for 1927 of 53 per 1,000 births is the second lowest so far recorded for Westmorland. It is considerably below the rate for England and Wales for 1927 which is 69.

In the Urban Districts there were 427 births and 31 infant deaths, giving a rate of 70 per 1,000 births. In the Rural Districts there were 568 births and 22 infant deaths, yielding a rate of 38 per 1,000 births.

In the above table it will be observed that Grasmere maintains its record of no infant deaths, and that Ambleside too had no infantile mortality.

In his Annual Report for Kendal, Dr. Cockill comments on the comparatively high rate for Kendal. The result of his investigations are set out in interesting tables. He finds that:—
“ 14 of the babies lived in yards in houses with rentals of 6s. per week and under, and 8 cases were lodgers, or in rooms in the houses occupied.”

In the following Tables will be found the age-incidence and causes of deaths of infants in the various districts:—

Age Incidence of Infantile Mortality, 1927.

DISTRICT.	1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Under 1 month.	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total under 1 year.
URBAN.										
Ambleside ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appleby ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Grasmere ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kendal ...	7	1	1	—	9	3	6	3	4	25
Kirkby Lonsdale ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Shap ...	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Windermere ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
RURAL										
E. Westmorland	2	2	2	2	8	1	—	1	—	10
S. Westmorland	4	2	—	—	6	1	—	1	—	8
West Ward ...	2	1	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Westmorland	18	7	5	2	32	5	6	5	5	53

Analysis of Causes of Deaths of Infants under 1 year in 1927.

DISTRICT.	Gastritis.	Convulsions	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Injury at Birth.	Prematurity	Marasmus, etc.	Congenital Malformation	Other Causes	TOTAL.	Deaths in order of Fatality.
URBAN.											
Ambleside	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appleby ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Grasmere	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kendal ...	2	1	2	4	—	8	5	1	2	25	Prematurity ... 18
Kirkby Lonsdale	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	Marasmus Congenital Malformation } 8
Shap ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	Pneumonia ... 6
Windermere	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	Bronchitis Other Causes } 4
RURAL.											
E. Westmorland	—	1	2	—	—	4	—	1	2	10	Convulsions ... 3
S. Westmorland	—	1	—	1	—	4	1	1	—	8	Gastritis 2
West Ward	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	4	
Westmorland	2	3	4	6	—	18	8	8	4	53	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Dr. Dorothy Potts, the Assistant County Medical Officer of Health supervises this work and acts as Inspector of Mid-wives. Her absence from duty owing to ill-health from October, 1927, has been greatly regretted, not only by your Committee and Officials, but by the Nurses and the Mothers all over the County. Your Committee has been fortunate in securing the temporary services of Dr. Alison Jean Maxwell-Wood.

Twenty-seven Nursing Associations provide the part-time services of their nurses, who act as Infant Welfare Visitors, School Nurses, and Tuberculosis After-care Visitors. These Nurses give great help at the routine medical inspections in the schools, in following up, and at the Dental and Orthopædic clinics. For these services the County Council makes substantial annual payments to the Associations. In order to bring together these widely scattered associations and their nurses for mutual help, discussion and pooling of experiences a County Nursing Association has been formed, and will shortly be in operation.

The more populous areas in the County are covered by the Nursing Associations, while isolated farms and cottages outside nursing areas have been visited by Dr. Potts. These visits are much appreciated by the mothers with young children.

Home visiting by the nurses or by Dr. Potts is the main activity. The pre-natal supervision of the mothers is being extended.

There are few committees large enough to call for Infant Welfare Centres.

Centres are held once a month at Windermere, at Bowness-on-Windermere, and at Ambleside, at all of which Dr. Potts attends. Public-spirited voluntary helpers maintain and actively support these centres. They merit the warm thanks of your Committee for their valued help.

The figures for 1927 as to visits by nurses and by Dr. Potts are as follows :—

	By Nurses.	By Dr. Potts.	Total.
Expectant Mothers Visited ...	332	3	335
Total Visits ...	1465	5	1470
Infants Visited ...	385	112	497
Total Visits ...	4920	458	5378
Children, 1 to 5 years—			
Total Visits ...	2739	295	3034

The Borough of Kendal, which is an authority under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, acting through its Maternity and Child Welfare Committee maintains a Centre held weekly at Abbot Hall, Kendal. This admirable centre is conducted by Dr. Cockill, the Medical Officer of Health for the Westmorland Combined Districts, who kindly furnishes the following statement of the work accomplished in Kendal in 1927.

Summary of work done in connection with Kendal Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 1927.

Number of times the Centre has been opened	...	52
„ babies under 1 year attending	... 132	
„ children, 1—5 years	... 121	
	—	253
„ consultation for children	... 1480	
„ „ „ mothers	... 184	
„ „ „ expectant mothers	... 181	
	—	1845
Average No. of children attending per session	... 28.5	
„ „ mothers attending per session	... 3.5	
„ „ expectant mothers attending per session	... 3.5	
	—	35.5
Number of expectant mothers admitted to hospital under the Maternity and Child Welfare Act...		24

The following is a summary of Nurse Petersen's (the Kendal Health Visitor) excellent work :—

Number of Visits to New Born Babies	...	222
„ Subsequent Visits	... 1016	
„ Visits to Children (1—5 years)	... 225	
„ „ Expectant Mothers	... 119	
„ Still Birth Enquiries	... 7	
„ Attendances at Centre	... 49	
	—	
	Total	1638
		—

Next comes the School age. In the administrative County in 1927 the nurses paid 4,691 visits to homes in connection with children found defective at School medical inspection. 2,451 children had dental treatment, 4,183 had dental inspection, 507 had their eyes tested by refraction—an intricate and time-consuming process, very efficiently undertaken by Dr. Potts—and 4,062 had full routine medical inspection.

In 1927, 12 children (3 of them under school age) received residential treatment at the Ethel Hedley Orthopædic Hospital, Calgarth Park, Windermere. In addition 118 children have been under the continued observation of a team of experts from this Hospital as base, who see children at the Orthopædic After-care Clinics held at Kendal, Kirkby Lonsdale, Penrith, or at the out-patient department of the base hospital.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Governors of the County Hospital, Kendal, which is a general hospital maintained on a voluntary basis, are to be congratulated on their enterprise in building and equipping a separate Maternity block. The fear that the rural mother would be reluctant to be confined in a maternity hospital has proved entirely groundless. Experience has demonstrated the reverse to be the case. There is a constant and growing demand for the beds. This department with its 6 beds was opened on the 5th March, 1924, and up to 31st December, 1927, 278 mothers had been confined there; 98 mothers were confined in 1927. This hospital, with its skilled medical staff, and its trained maternity nursing, is proving a great boon to mothers from overcrowded or from remotely situated homes, as well as to those whose previous confinements have been associated with anxious complications.

MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902 & 1918.

Dr. Dorothy Potts, who acts as Inspector of Midwives, reports as follows:—29 qualified midwives notified their intention to practise in the County in 1927. Of these 18 were District Nurses. Five midwives practised in the maternity department of the County Hospital at Kendal, and two at St. Monica's Maternity Home for unmarried mothers. Four bona-fide midwives notified their intention to practise in 1927, of whom three actually practised and one died.

The following notifications were received from midwives in 1927:—

Form of Notification of sending for Medical Aid	...	47
" " Still-birth	... ..	16
" " Artificial Feeding	... ..	12
" " Laying out dead body	... ..	9
" " Liability to be source of infection	... ..	3

**THE PUBLIC HEALTH (NOTIFICATION OF PUERPERAL FEVER AND
PUERPERAL PYREXIA) REGULATIONS, 1926.**

The provisions of these Regulations were explained in my report for 1926. Under the above Regulations, 7 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia, and 4 cases of Puerperal Fever were notified. The services of Dr. Douglas Smith, Gynæcologist, Carlisle, are available for any notifying practitioner on request, as well as the provision of a trained nurse where this is indicated. Advantage of these facilities has been taken by Doctors in respect of three cases.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

In 1927 there were 3 deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and one death from other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition.

The figures for the years 1921-1927 as to maternal deaths are as follows:—

Year.	No. of Births.	Deaths from Sepsis.	From other causes.
1921	1180	1	5
1922	1129	0	8
1923	1098	0	3
1924	1060	1	4
1925	986	2	4
1926	1058	0	2
1927	995	3	1
	<hr/> 7506	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 27

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of notifications of Tuberculosis and the number of deaths registered from Tuberculosis in 1927 are as follows:—

Notification of Tuberculosis.	No. of Notifications. Average.	
	1927.	1921—25.
Pulmonary	72	81
Other Forms	19	17
Deaths from Tuberculosis.		
Pulmonary	47	35
Other Forms	10	9

The following Report by the County Tuberculosis Officer upon the operations of the County Tuberculosis Scheme in 1927 will be read with interest, dealing as it does with the ascertainment of early cases, with the treatment, residential and otherwise, undertaken, and with the results of treatment.

REPORT BY THE COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER,
C. FERGUSON WALKER, B.A., M.D., B.S., London, D.P.H.
THE YEAR 1927.

Table showing figures re occupancy of Westmorland beds in 1927. The average number of beds occupied during the year was 33.5, including beds elsewhere than at Meathop.

	In Institutions on January 1.		Admitted during the year		Discharged during the year		Died in the Institutions.		In Institutions on Dec. 31st.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Number of Patients ...	Adults		10	26	18	8	10			
	Children		11	24	22	2	11			
			—	3	2	—	1			
			2	5	2	1	4			
Number of Observation Cases ...	Adults		—	—	—	—	—			
	Children		—	1	—	—	—			
			—	4	3	—	1			
			—	2	1	—	1			
	Total ..		23	65	49	11	33			

WESTMORLAND TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

Under the above scheme, approved by the Ministry of Health, the Westmorland Sanatorium is available for residential treatment of Westmorland patients recommended for Sanatorium benefit. The Medical Superintendent, as County Tuberculosis Officer, is responsible for the clinical work, and the County Medical Officer of Health is the Administrative Officer.

The establishment of a new system of record keeping as laid down by the Ministry of Health, and the administrative returns called for by that authority under Memorandum 37T, have taken up a good deal of my time, and involved considerable additional work of a purely clerical character.

Facilities for early diagnosis.

The Medical men throughout the County, whose co-operation has been invaluable, frequently ask me to examine suspected cases or contacts in consultation with them, with a view to diagnosis and treatment. Such patients are examined either at their homes, or at the doctor's consulting room, or at the dispensary clinics at Kendal or Appleby. In some doubtful cases a period of observation is necessary before arriving at a diagnosis, the sputum is tested, a continuous record of temperature charted, and repeated examinations made, before the diagnosis is settled. X-ray examination, for which the patient attends at Meathop, has been helpful in difficult cases. Sputum outfits for sending specimens for examination to Meathop are supplied to the doctors by the County Health Office, and no charge is made for examination or report. When reporting the result of such an examination to the medical attendant, I always write him offering to examine the patient, with a view to sanatorium treatment or otherwise, and in this way one gets in touch with new cases while still in an early and curable stage.

During 1927 the number of specimens of sputum sent by the County doctors to Meathop under this arrangement was 110, of which 32 proved to be positive and 78 negative for tubercle bacilli. Of the patients whose sputum was so examined 22 were subsequently recommended for, and persuaded to avail themselves of sanatorium treatment.

The number of Westmorland patients recommended for this treatment during 1927 was 68, who were all treated at Meathop with the exception of two who were sent to Blencathra Sanatorium in Cumberland, one to Market Drayton Sanatorium in Cheshire, and three who failed to avail themselves of sanatorium treatment.

Table showing results of Sanatorium treatment of Westmorland patients in 1927.

Classification on admission to the Institution.		Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.											Total.	
			Under 3 months.			3—6 months.			6—12 months.			More than 12 months.			
			M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.		Ch.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Class T.B. minus.	Quiescent	-	2	2	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	9
		Improved	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
		No material improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Class T.B. plus Group 1.	Quiescent	-	2	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5
		Improved	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
		No material improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Class T.B. plus Group 2.	Quiescent	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
		Improved	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	-	-	2	-	8
		No material improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Died in Institution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Class T.B. plus Group 3.	Quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	
	Improved	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	4	
	No material improvement	-	2	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	8	
	Died in Institution	4	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	10	
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Quiescent or Arrested	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	Improved	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	No material improvement	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Died in Institution	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
			Under 1 week.			1—2 weeks.			2—4 weeks.			More than 4 weeks.		55	
Observation for purposes of diagnosis.	Tuberculous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Non-Tuberculous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Doubtful	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	5	

Dental Treatment of Westmorland Patients.

The following are the figures showing dental treatment of Westmorland patients at Meathop during 1927:—

Treatments	...	...	116
Patients treated	...	...	24
Extractions	...	...	98
Fillings	...	..	1
Scalings	...	...	6
Dentures repaired...	...	...	6
Part dentures supplied	...	..	9
Full dentures supplied	...	...	10

Table giving the figures for the dispensary work during 1927.

Dispensary Work.

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary	Total.
A. New Cases Examined :			
(a) Definitely Tuberculous ..	54	10	64
(b) Doubtful ..	..	..	3
(c) Non-Tuberculous ..	..	..	17
B. CONTACTS EXAMINED :			
(a) Definitely Tuberculous ..	1	..	1
(b) Doubtful ..	..	..	3
(c) Non-Tuberculous ..	..	..	8
C. Cases written off the Register (including Non-Tuberculous)			
.. ..	..	..	27
D. Number on Register Dec. 31 :			
(a) Diagnosis completed ..	203	26	229
.. not ..	..	..	4

No. on Register, Jan. 1st, 1927	184	Consultations with doctors at patients' homes	... 48
Transferred from other areas...	3	Other consultations with doctors	... 135
Transferred to other areas	5	Visits of Tuberculosis Officer to Homes	... 105
Died	18	Specimens of Sputum examined	110
Attendances at Dispensaries	346	X-ray examinations	... 22
Kendal nurses' visits	667		
Other nurses' visits	351		

After-Care.

The District Nursing Associations throughout the County receive grants from the County Council in return for the services of the district nurses in visiting tuberculosis patients. When a patient is discharged from the Sanatorium, I send a medical report to the Administrative Officer, who notifies the Health visitor to put the case on her visiting list. I also write to the patient's private medical attendant, giving medical details re progress, condition on discharge, and suggestions re further treatment if required. Thus the patient is able to receive appropriate advice and guidance in regard to home treatment.

Further consultations take place from time to time, between the medical attendant and myself, and when requisite, I re-visit the patient, or re-examine him at the Dispensary, in order to advise as to home treatment or further sanatorium treatment.

In cases medically suitable, where an appropriate site is available, a shelter may be provided; the shelters owned by the Westmorland County Council are at present all in use; they are located as follows:—Kendal (2), Bampton, Endmoor, Grasmere, Great Asby, Milnthorpe, Staveley, Winton (one each).

Unfortunately, convalescent cases often find the greatest difficulty in finding suitable light work, and are forced by poverty into some unsuitable occupation, which leads to a break-down in health. There is need for a voluntary organization to help these patients towards suitable employment.

I desire to express my cordial thanks for kind co-operation to my colleague, Dr. W. E. Henderson, the County Medical Officer of Health, to the General Practitioners throughout the County, who have been so helpful, to Nurse Illingworth, who has given me such capable and willing assistance at the Kendal Dispensary, also to the Charity Organisation Society, always ready to assist needy and deserving cases.

C. FERGUSON WALKER,

Medical Superintendent Westmorland Sanatorium.

County Tuberculosis Officer for Westmorland.

February, 1928.

Local Authorities	London	County of London	County of Essex	County of Kent	County of Surrey	County of Sussex
Number of New Houses erected during the Year :-						
123	0	0	221	2	8	4
Number of houses requiring assistance under the Housing Acts :-						
21	0	0	22	0	2	0
7	0	0	1	0	2	4
1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :-						
(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected during the year :-						
133	81	22	140	15	12	10
(2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected :-						
133	0	0	121	2	12	10
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in such a state as to be dangerous or injurious to health as to require remedial action :-						
2	0	0	0	1	0	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those found to be in such a state as to be dangerous or injurious to health as to require remedial action) found to be in such a state as to require remedial action :-						
112	0	0	88	0	0	0
2. Remedy of defects during the Year without formal notices :-						
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Act, 1925 :-						
24	0	0	22	0	0	0
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :-						
A. Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :-						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which orders were made :-						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were repaired after service of formal notices :-						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which orders became operative in pursuance of the provisions of the Housing Act, 1925 :-						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which orders were made :-						
11	0	0	11	0	0	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-						
9	0	0	11	0	7	25
1	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :-						
(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Housing Orders :-						
2	0	0	0	0	0	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which orders were made :-						
2	0	0	0	0	0	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which orders were determined, the dwelling-houses being in such a state as to require remedial action :-						
1	0	0	0	0	0	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which orders were made :-						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of the provisions of the Housing Act, 1925 :-						
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

THE CONTROL OF BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS.

Under the Tuberculosis Order the following action has been taken in 1927 :—

			1927.		1926.
Animals destroyed	...	...	90	...	126
Compensation paid :—					
Rate.		No. of Animals.			Amount paid.
					£ s.
2	...	38	...		225 10
3	...	52	...		126 10
					<hr/>
					£352 0
					<hr/>

HOUSING.

The Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926, which empowers County Councils to give assistance by grant or loan to owners of dwelling houses occupied by agricultural workers for the purpose of reconditioning such dwelling houses, has been put in force in your County under a scheme approved by the Ministry of Health. During 1927 three applications were dealt with.

The tabulated statement opposite summarises the housing activities in 1927.

PUBLIC HEALTH (VENEREAL) DISEASES REGULATIONS.

The County Scheme under the above Regulations was described in my Report for 1926. During 1927, 14 Westmorland patients were treated, 4 for Syphilis, 1 for Soft Chancre, 6 for Gonorrhoea, and 3 Conditions other than Venereal, at the following centres, viz. :—10 at Barrow-in-Furness, and 4 at Preston. The total attendances of Westmorland patients at these number 109, and the aggregate number of " in-patient " days was 72.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

In the County, excluding the Borough of Kendal, the County Police take samples under these Acts. The County Analyst, Mr. C. J. H. Stock, B.Sc., F.I.C., reports for the year ended 31st December, 1927, as follows:—

1. During the 12 months ended the 31st December, 1927, I have analysed 78 Samples of Food submitted by the Inspectors appointed under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts for the County of Westmorland, viz.:—

From Appleby Division	...	...	38
From Kendal Division	...	...	40
			—
			78
			—

2. The following table briefly summarises the result of the analysis of these samples and indicates what action has been taken in connection with those samples which were not found to be of genuine quality:—

Number of samples of Milk submitted	...	...	48
Number of other samples submitted	...	...	30
			—
			78
			—
No. Adulterated or below standard	...	...	6
No. of Samples of doubtful quality	...	...	—
No. of Samples on appeal to cow	...	...	2
No. of samples "on delivery"	...	...	1
No. of persons cautioned	...	...	1
No. of persons summoned	...	...	2
No. of persons discharged	...	...	—
No. of persons to pay costs	...	...	—
No. of cases in which no action taken	...	...	2
No. of cases pending at end of year	...	...	—
Amount of fines	...	...	£5 2 0
Amount of costs	...	...	0 18 6

3. The percentage of adulteration for the year is 8.00; for the 12 months ended 31st December, 1926 it was 6.66. In each case all samples other than appeal and reference samples, which have been reported as not being of genuine quality, are included.

4. The only article in respect of which it has been necessary to institute proceedings is Milk, the whole of the other samples being of genuine quality.

5. Of the 48 samples of Milk submitted during the 12 months, 6 were returned as being adulterated or below standard, while 2 were taken as appeal to the cow samples and 1 as a reference sample in course of delivery.

Excluding the appeal and reference samples, the percentage of adulteration for Milk amounted to 13.33; for the previous 12 months the figure was 10.63.

Taking into consideration the average composition of the 39 genuine samples analysed during the year the figure of 13.33 is still far too high:

Average composition of 39 genuine Milks.			
Non-fatty Solids	...	...	8.85%
Fat	...	...	3.80%

These figures compare very closely with the average for the year 1926 in which the Non-fatty Solids were 8.85% and the Fat 3.72% for 42 genuine samples, so that in spite of the unfavourable weather conditions during 1927, the genuine Milk has been of excellent quality.

6. Other Samples.

In no case was there any indication that the articles falling under this heading were other than of satisfactory quality.

(Signed) CYRIL J. H. STOCK,
County Analyst.

In the Borough of Kendal the Inspector under these Acts is the Borough Sanitary Inspector, and the Borough Analyst is Mr. W. H. Roberts, M.Sc., F.I.C., Liverpool.

The Medical Officer of Health for Kendal in his Annual Report for 1927 states:—

The following articles of food were taken and submitted for analysis—

<i>Article.</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Result.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Milk ..	51	Genuine	
Milk ..	1	Milk fat 2.98% Non fatty solids 6.67%	Vendor fined £3 3. 0d. and costs.
Milk ..	1	Milk fat 2.2% Non fatty solids 9.22%	Legal proceedings. Case dismissed.
Milk ..	1	Milk fat 2.9% Non fatty solids 8.9%	Vendor warned and further sample taken.
Milk ..	1	Milk fat 2.8% Non fatty solids 9.59%	do.
Milk ..	1	Milk fat 2.8% Non fatty solids 8.96%	do.
Milk ..	1	Milk fat 2.9% Non fatty solids 8.72%	do.
Milk ..	1	Milk fat 2.9% Non fatty solids 9.3%	do.
Milk ..	1	Milk fat 2.82% Non fatty solids 9.55%	do.
Skim Milk ..	1	Genuine.	
Cream ..	4	No preservative found.	
Cream ..	1	0.11% Borates found	Sold as fresh cream. Vendor warned.
Cream ..	1	0.15% Borates found.	do.
Tripe ..	1	No preservative found.	
Brawn ..	1	do.	
Sausages ..	8	do.	
Total Samples	76		

The average percentage of fat and non-fatty solids in all milks (genuine and non-genuine) was 3.71 per cent. and 8.98 per

cent. respectively. The highest fat content was 5.38 per cent. and the highest non-fatty content 9.85 per cent.

The amount of fat in the six creams varied from 27.7 per cent. to 54.7 per cent.

The amount of meat contained in the sausages varied from 50 per cent. to 79 per cent.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK & CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912 & 1917.

Under these Regulations in 1927 in the County (including Kendal) 108 samples of milk and 6 samples of cream were examined for preservatives. The Analyst reported that no sample of milk on analysis contained preservatives. Two samples of cream were found to contain preservatives (Borates). The two vendors were warned for having had on sale cream containing preservatives, and not sold as "preserved cream."

BACTERIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS.

The Medical Officer of Health for the Westmorland Combined Districts kindly supplies the following report on the bacteriological and analytical work done in his Laboratory, which is maintained by the Combined Districts. His figures show the wide range of his investigations. The facilities which this laboratory provides for prompt examination and report are highly appreciated by the practising doctors.

Blood specimens for the Wassermann test and other specimens are dealt with at the Pathological Department, University of Manchester, in terms of the County Scheme under the Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations, 1916.

In addition to the 34 specimens of sputum examined for the Tubercle Bacillus in the above Laboratory, 100 specimens were examined at the Laboratory of the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop, Grange-over-Sands (see page 17).

LABORATORY REPORT, 1927.

DISTRICT.	BACTERIOLOGICAL.										PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL.					TOTALS.	
	Diphtheria.	Tubercle (Sputum).	Organisms.	Enteric Fever.		Vaccine Cultures.	Water (B Coll).	Bacilluria.	Milk.		Scarlet Fever.	Urine.	Malaria.	Blood Diseases.	Cytodiagnoses.		Water Analysis.
				Agglutinations.	Carriers.				gonococcus.	Bacterial Counts.								B. Coll.	Deposits.
Ambleside ...	1	-	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Appleby ...	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Grasmere ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kendal ...	99	26	4	4	2	1	6	26	11	6	6	2	2	7	3	-	207
Kirkby Lonsdale ...	25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Shap ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Windermere ...	11	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	14
East Westmorland	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
South Westmorland	56	6	2	4	2	-	3	1	3	12	12	1	-	2	-	4	108
West Ward ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	28
TOTALS	204	34	6	9	10	2	10	29	15	31	31	2	3	9	3	5	406

EDUCATION IN HEALTHY LIVING.

This is an all-the-year-round activity. The audiences provided by the Women's Institutes in nearly every community in the County form a ready-made meeting of people willing to listen-in and to learn. Other organisations readily give us a hearing, such as Citizens' Associations, Mothers' Unions, Wives' Fellowship, Toc H, and the Scouts and Guides. The subjects dealt with have been "Food and Your Money's Worth," "Health in the Home," "Health and Citizenship," "First Aid in the Home," "Care of the Eyes," "Sound Teeth the Gateway to Health," "The Nervous Child," etc.

I am deeply indebted to Dr. Potts and to Mr. Edwards, the School Dental Surgeon, for their valued help, most of which is evening work.

The National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis very generously put at your disposal one of its Medical Officers, Dr. Peill, with a splendidly equipped Caravan. Dr. Peill's educative pilgrimage took place in 1928, and falls to be recorded in my Report for 1928. I take this chance to express my thanks to him and to his Association for the good work done, and the great interest aroused all over the County.

My hearty thanks are due to Dr. Potts, Mr. Edwards, and Mr. Nathan Tyson, of the Health Office staff, for loyal, ungrudging and devoted team work.

I gladly take this chance to thank Dr. Cockill, the Medical Officer of Health for the Westmorland Combined Districts, for his help in furnishing many of the statistics for this report, for having very kindly undertaken some of Dr. Potts' work in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare, and for his co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM ELMSIE HENDERSON.

