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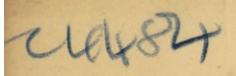
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## ARMY MEDICAL LIBRARY WESTMORLAND COUNTY COUNCIL

DUPLICATE



# ANNUAL REPORT

#### OF THE

# COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

## THE YEAR 1948

Westmorland Gazette Ltd., Printers, Kendal.



## WESTMORLAND COUNTY COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

THE YEAR 1948

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#### COUNTY OF WESTMORLAND.

Public Health Department, County Hall, Kendal. November, 1949.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1948. Once again there have been several staff changes, reported in detail on page 5, the effect of which, beside the filling of vacancies caused by resignation, was to strengthen the Department for the duties placed upon it by recent legislation.

From the Vital Statistics which are given on page 6, and amplified in the pages immediately following, it will be observed that there was an overall increase in the population of 2,010: the excess of live births over deaths accounted for 190 of these, and the rest represents the net result of population migration. In this connection it may be noted that the excess of births over deaths shows a reduction of 122 from the 1947 figure. In common with the country at large the Birth Rate fell and is now 2.3 per thousand below that for England and Wales, whilst the Death Rate, which also fell, is appreciably above that for the whole country, the figures being respectively 12.71 and 10.8.

During 1948 the Maternal Mortality Rate was more than double the national figure, but in this connection, as with Infantile Mortality, the rate for which rose from 22.09 to 39.46, the numbers are too small to have any great statistical significance and must be expected to fluctuate fairly considerably from year to year.

As in previous years, Heart Disease, Cancer and Cerebral Haemorrhage were by far the most important causes of death.

The comparability of figures dealing with the Maternity and Child Welfare Services is impaired by the fact that they now include statistics for the Borough of Kendal, which authority relinquished these functions to the County Council from 1st January, 1948. In this connection it is noteworthy that whilst the total attendances at the Child Welfare Centres have increased, the average attendance per session shows a steady decrease. It is hoped, at the end of the current year, to ascertain the figures for the individual Centres, when it may be necessary to consider the extent to which the continuation of some of those at which the attendance is lowest is justifiable. With regard to Infectious Diseases, the only changes of note are the fall of 20 per cent. in the notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and the complete absence from the County of Acute Poliomyelitis. The number of cases of measles and whooping cough was average. There were 4 cases of Diphtheria during the year. Of these, two were visitors and two Westmorland cases. All four had not been immunised.

The year 1948 has seen the passing of legislation which will have a profound effect on the Health Services and one cannot avoid making a brief reference to this in passing. The legislation comprises the Nurseries and Child Minders Regulations Act, 1948, the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Children's Act and, lastly, the National Health Service Act. Westmorland, being a small County Council, is affected in a lesser degree than most other Counties and County Boroughs possessing hospitals and institutions. Nevertheless, the change has been felt and it is gratifying to be able to report that the change over proceeded smoothly and with no major disturbances. Difficulties still remain to be smoothed out, particularly with regard to the Sitting-Case Car Service, the demands on which have exceeded all expectations, and do not even yet appear to have reached their peak, but, given goodwill on all sides and a spirit of co-operation, there is no reason why the new services should not settle down into a state of increasing usefulness to the inhabitants of the County.

I would like once again to thank the Committee for its continued support and the staff of the Department for their loyalty.

-

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. GUY,

County Medical Officer of Health.

	Other Offices.	School Medical Officer.	Deputy School Medical Officer,	Senior Asst. School Medical Officer.	Asst. School Medical Officer.	Medical Superintendent, Meathop Sanatorium.	Senior School Dental Officer	Assist. School Dental Officer	Assist. School Dental Officer	Assist. School Dental Officer	AA 80 AA 80 A AA 80 AA 80 A 80 A	ATISTA AT	ALL	22 22
Whole or	Part Time.	Whole	Whole	Whole	Whole	Part	Whole	Whole	Whole	Whole	Whole	Whole	Whole	Whole
	Office. Par	County Medical Officer	Deputy County Medical Officer (App. 1.10.48)	Senior Asst. County Medical Officer (R esigned 31.8.48)	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (Lond.) Asst. County Medical Officer	Tuberculosis Officer	Senior Dental Officer.	Assist. Dental Officer.	Assist. Dental Officer.	Assist. Dental Officer. (Appointed 4.5.48 Resigned 31.12.48)	County Social Worker (Resigned 30.4.48).	County Social Worker (Appointed 4.5.48; Resigned 31.7.48).	Psychiatric Social Worker Whole (Appointed 1.6.48)	Superintendent Nursing Officer (Appointed 1.5.48)
	Qualifications.	. M.D., D.P.H.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.		.M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H.	L.D.S	L.D.S	L.D.S	L.D.S	Social Science Dip., Lond	. M.A ;	. B.A	S.R.N., S.C.M
		:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		:			
	Name.	John A. Guy	C. Fleming	J. Berkeley	F. M. Taylor	J, Munro Campbell	John Irvine	D. H. Watson	C. Parkinson	A. C. Wildgoose	A. M. A. Medley	P. Thurman	M. N. Burgess	E. M. Thomas

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## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres, land and inland water)		504,917
Population (Registrar-General's estimat	e of	Resident
Population, mid-1948)		66,700
Total Rateable Value as on 1st April, 1948		£439,754
Estimated product of a Penny Rate (General	l County	) for the
financial year 1948-49		£1,752

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATIST	ICS IN T	HE YEAR	R 1948.	
	Total.	Males.	Female	s.
Live Births—Legitimate	980	521	459	
Illegitimate	59	35	24	
Total births	1,039	556	483	
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated res	sident pop	ulation	15.	.6
Birth Rate, England and	d Wales 1'	7.9.		
	Total.	Males.	Female	s.
Stillbirth		9	7	
Rate per 1,000 total live and	stillbirths	, 15.17.		
	Total.	Males.	Female	s
Deaths		406	442	
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated			n, 12.71.	
Death Date England and				
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of birth:	Pregnan	ey or Chi	Id-	
Puerperal Sepsis			2	
Other Puerperal Causes			1	
Rate per 1,000 total (live and stil	ll) births,	for the p	ur-	
pose of calculating Materna				
Maternal Mortality Rate, England			000	
total (live and still) b	oirths, 1.02	2.		
Death Rate of Infants under one year of	f age:			
All infants per 1,000 total live births			39.4	16
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimat	te live bir	ths	37.7	76
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitim Infant Death Rate, England			67.8	30
Deaths from-		194	7. 194	8.

Deaths from-			1011.	1010.
Cancer (all ages)		 	137	135
Measles (all ages)		 	-	
Whooping Cough (all	ages)	 	1	-
Diarrhoea (under two	years)	 	2	-

6

## POPULATION.

DISTRICT.	1941	Area in acres (Land and Inland Water).	Population. Registrar General's estimate Mid.–1948.
Urba <b>n</b> . Appleby	bole	1,877	1,590
Lakes		49,917	5,270
Kendal		3,705	18,300
Windermere		9,723	6,483
Rural. North Westmo	rland	288,688	16,930
South Westmo	orland	151,007	18,190
1941 1940 1947			
Westmorla	nd	504,917	66,700

## BIRTH RATE, 1947 and 1948.

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population:

District.	Birth Rate 1947.	Birth Rate 1948.	
Urban. Appleby Kendal		24.8 19.7	15.1 15.9
Lakes Windermere Rural.		13.1 18.7	12.7 14.8
North Westmorland South Westmorland		20.7 17.5	17.1 15.0
Westmorland England & Wales		<b>18.9</b> 20.5	<b>15.6</b> 17.9

Live Births registered in the last five years were as follows:---

Year	 1	944 194	5 1946	1947	1948
No. of births	 1,	050 94	6 1,179	1,222	1,039

8

### DEATH RATE, 1946, 1947 and 1948.

		Dea		Death Rate. D	
District.			1946.	1947.	1948
URBAN.				MAGRI	1
Appleby		1	15.6	19.3	10.1
Kendal			10.9	12.4	13.7
Lakes			12.0	17.2	13.4
Windermere			14.1	12.7	11.6
RURAL.					
North Westmorla	nd		14.3	14.9	12.5
South Westmorla	nd		11.9	14.1	12.4
WESTMORLANI	)		12.7	14.1	12.7
ENGLAND and W	ALES		11.5	12.0	10.8

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population.

		No. of deaths 1946.	No. of deaths 1947.	No. of deaths 1948.
Heart Disease		236	282	291
Cancer		112	137	135
Cerebral Haemorrhage		139	140	114
Other Circulatory Diseases		18	30	42
Violence		23	24	35
Digestive Diseases		20	31	27
Nephritis		28	32	23
Bronchitis		29	39	22
Tuberculosis of the Respin	atory			
System		16	16	17
Pneumonia		14	23	11
Non-respiratory Tuberculosi	is	8	6	6

#### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY. (Under 1 Year.)

Rate per 1,000 Live Births.

District.	1946.	1947.	1948.
URBAN.		in an	
Appleby	 29.4	24.4	41.7
Kendal	 28.0	35.7	. 44.7
Lakes	 14.3	44.0	15.2
Windermere	 71.4	8.2	20.8
RURAL.			
North Westmorland	 42.8	24.4	41.4
South Westmorland	 19.1	36.8	44.1
WESTMORLAND	33.1	22.1	20 5
	 and the second se		39.5
ENGLAND and WALES	 43.0	41.0	34.0

#### ILLEGITIMATE INFANT DEATH RATE.

Rate per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births.

		1946.	1947.	1948.
WESTMORLAND		43	40	67.80
ENGLAND and WALES	••••	60	59	45.34

Causes of Death in Infants under 1 year in 1948:

		Number of Deaths.
Prematurity		 13
Infections		 9
Congenital abnormalities		 6
Conditions consequent on difficult	birth	 
Asphyxia due to accidents		 3
Rh. factor		 1
Intestinal obstruction		 1

#### DISTRICT MIDWIFERY, HEALTH VISITING AND HOME NURSING.

Prior to 5th July, 1948, the County Council's duties in respect of Health Visiting, Tuberculosis Visiting, School Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery outside Kendal, were performed through the agency of the Westmorland County Nursing Association and its affiliated District Nursing Associations who employed a total of 33 District Nurse-Midwives

From the Appointed Day, however, the County Council took into direct employment all the District Nurse Midwives and carried out all these functions directly, utilising the local knowledge and experience of the Nursing Associations through the local District Nursing Committees which have been appointed.

Apart from the fact that the staff undertaking these duties have, since the appointed day, been employed directly by the County Council, the most notable change in regard to these services is the extended scope of the "Health Visiting." Instead of being restricted as hitherto to the supervision and care of expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age, the Health Visitor is now responsible for advising on the care of any member of the household suffering from illness, and particularly with regard to the prevention of the spread of infection. These additional functions of the Health Visitor are not intended to overlap, but rather to supplement, those of the family doctor, sanitary inspector and home nurse.

#### Supervision of Midwives.

As advised in Ministry of Health Circular 118/47, the County Council appointed a Superintendent Nursing Officer to co-ordinate the work of the midwifery, home nursing and health visiting services, and this officer was also appointed Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives. The Assistant County Medical Officer was designated Medical Supervisor of Midwives.

As a result of the National Health Service Act, the Kendal Corporation ceased to be a Child Welfare Authority, and to facilitate the future administration of the service the responsibility for this work was in fact transferred to the County Council on 1st January, 1949. Because of this change and also the wider changes brought about by the Act. the figures given in various parts of this report will often be seen to differ considerably from those given for previous years. Similarly, the Ministry's statistical requirements have undergone drastic amendment, and although the figures apply only to the period 5th July to 31st December, 1949, they are included at the end of this Report, as they indicate the form in which the statistics will henceforward be presented.

#### Domiciliary Maternity Nursing.

	1948.	1947.	1946.
Number of Midwifery cases	 119	173	178
Number of Maternity cases	 216	238	247
		die <del>gegen</del> ade	
	335	411	425

Number of Domiciliary Midwives who hold Analgesia Certificates ... 25 Number of cases in which Gas Air Analgesia was administered by

Domiciliary Midwives (5th July to 31st December, 1948) ... 79

Infar	it W	/eli	fare	
-------	------	------	------	--

	1948.	1947.	1946.
Number of Infants under 1 year visited Total Health Visits to Infants	976	690	686
under 1 year Total Health Visits to Children 1-5	7,615	6,267	6,597
years	8,837	6,721	7,722

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation against diphtheria, previously the responsibility of the County Council and District Councils concurrently, is now the responsibility of the County Council alone. The treatment is given, either by the County Council medical staff or the general practitioners according as the parents choose, at or before the first birthday, whilst all parents are urged to consent to their children receiving a reinforcing dose on attaining the age of 5 years.

The success of this scheme may be judged from the fact that there were no cases of diphtheria notified amongst residents of the County during the year, compared with, for example, 21 notifications and 2 deaths in 1937. Details of children immunised during the year. including those receiving reinforcing doses, are given below:—

Children aged 5-15 year	s old 7	'96
Children below 5 years	old 9	73
	only but supar-	_

Total ... 1,769

#### VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

With the coming into effect of the National Health Service Act, the Vaccination Acts, 1871-1907, were repealed, the offices of Vaccination Officer and Public Vaccinator were abolished, and it became the duty of the Local Health Authority to make arrangements for the vaccinations against smallpox of all persons who need or desire this treatment.

It is the duty of the Health Visitors to urge all parents to have their children vaccinated as soon as practicable after birth, and all medical practitioners in the County were given an opportunity of carrying out this treatment under the County Council's arrangements. A record of the treatment is sent to the County Medical Officer, and fees will be payable in respect of each report received, when negotiations now proceeding on a national level are concluded.

Lymph is supplied free through the Public Health Laboratory Service, and the Council has also taken power, in its proposals, to make such special arrangements as may be necessary in the event of a threatened epidemic of smallpox.

#### INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Details of Infant Welfare Centres in operation at the end of the year are given below:—

Area,		Centre Held At:	Frequency of Sessions.
Ambleside .		Y.M.C.A.	Monthly.
Appleby .			Fortnightly.
		Church Hall	Monthly.
		Rayrigg Room	Monthly.
			Monthly.
	• • *		Monthly.
Kendal .		School Clinic, Stramon-	
		gate	Twice weekly.
		Mill Brow House	Monthly.
		Temperance Hall	Fortnightly.
	• •	School	Monthly.
	• •	Methodist Chapel Hall	Monthly.
	• •	Working Men's Institute	Monthly.
	• •	Methodist Chapel Hall	Fortnightly.
Temple Sowerby	• •	Church Hall	Fortnightly.
Windermere .		Y.M.C.A.	Monthly.

Once again thanks are due to the local branches of the British Red Cross Society, the St. John Organisation, and all other voluntary workers, for their assistance in the running of the Centres.

#### Attendances at Centres.

			1948.	1947.	1946.
Under 1 year	n	net se.	3,282	1,711	901
Over 1 year			2,389	1,654	1,193
Average per session			15 1	19.9	20.4

#### Unmarried Mothers and Their Children.

Although on 5th July, 1949, when the Children Act came into operation, Miss Thurman, who had previously been employed as Social Worker, took up the new appointment of Children's Officer, she continued, with the consent of the Children Committee, to investigate and advise these cases on behalf of the Health Committee.

Births of Illegitimate Children notified	 44
Mother keeping baby in own home	 23
Mother found resident post with baby	 2
Adoptions arranged or pending	 14
Mother and baby with relatives	 2
Mother and baby with putative father	 1
Baby placed with foster parents	 2
	-
	44

Institutional accommodation for these cases is provided under arrangements made with the undermentioned voluntary homes:—

#### St. Monica's Maternity Home, Kendal.

The Home possesses 23 maternity beds. Owing to the form in which the Ministry required their returns, statistics are available only for the period 5th July to 31st December, 1948, during which time 25 maternity cases were admitted, three of whom were domiciled in Westmorland.

#### Sacred Heart Maternity Home, Brettargh Holt, Kendal.

This Home has 40 maternity beds, and from 5th July to 31st December, 1948, 47 maternity cases, only one of whom was domiciled in Westmorland, were admitted.

In the case of both of the Homes, the apparently low number of admissions relative to the number of beds is largely explained by the fact that patients are admitted at least a month before confinement and retained for at least two months afterwards, so as to afford an opportunity for the making of arrangements for the care of the babies.

#### Care of Premature Infants.

The following table gives details of premature infants born in the County during 1948:—

Premature births notified	hig. york	54
Number of domiciliary births	11.00	12
Number who died within 24 hours	a n () :	1
Number who survived one month		8
Number of hospital births		42
Number who died within 24 hours		3
Number who survived one month		38

#### **REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.**

#### (Sections 187 to 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936.)

There were 10 registered homes at the end of the year providing beds for 89 maternity patients and 84 other patients. They have been inspected and found to be satisfactorily run.

#### SCHEME FOR ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL MEDICAL SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES' CASES.

Prior to 5th July, the Committee had developed a scheme under which all patients engaging a midwife employed either by a District Nursing Association or directly by the County Council, were required to receive ante-natal and post-natal supervision from their usual medical advisers. This service was designed to provide medical supervision throughout pregnancy and involved an average of six medical examinations per case, for which the County Council undertook to pay the doctor a fee of £2 2s. 0d., plus mileage allowance. From the inception of the National Health Service Act a comparable service, the Maternity Medical Service, became available under Part IV of the Act, and the Council's arrangements were terminated, although all cases booked before the appointed day were carried to completion, even though the confinement took place subsequent to that date.

Altogether 266 women were supervised under this scheme during the year.

#### DENTAL TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

In their proposals under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act, the Council provided for the examination and, where necessary, treatment of all expectant and nursing mothers, and for all children from the age of two years until they came within the scope of the School Health Service, and to this end they increased their Dental Staff by one full-time officer with the intention that the four Dental Officers should, in aggregate, devote not less than ten sessions per week to this work. Unfortunately, the additional officer whose services the Committee were able to secure resigned almost immediately and, owing to the greater attraction of private practice, the remaining two Assistant Dental Officers also resigned during 1949. The anticipated expansion of the Local Health Authority's dental service has, therefore, had to be deferred.

	]	Expectant mothers.	Nursing others.	Children der 5 yrs.
(a) Examined		68	 40	 223
(b) Requiring treatment		66	 39	 79
(c) Treated		64	 35	 71
(d) Made dentally fit		60	 29	 70
Total visits to clinic		272	 181	 78
Extractions		299	 92	 40
Fillings		72	 45	 74
General anaesthetics adm	ninis-			
tered		31	 9	 19
Scalings		5	 6	 la desta
Dressing		16	 11	 8.
Other operations	· · · ·	140	 63	 1
Dentures provided		35	 23	 method

#### SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER'S REPORT, 1948.

#### THE PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS, 1939.

During 1948 five cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified (see Tables Notifiable Diseases, page 44). Two cases were nursed at home, two occurred at and were nursed in Institutions, whilst one occurred in an Institution and was transferred to hospital. There were no deaths.

#### DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

In January, 1946, the County Council inaugurated Home Help and Domestic Help services for the assistance of maternity and other sick cases respectively, the scheme being the particular responsibility of the Social Worker; the Home Help and Domestic Help Schemes were distinguished for accountancy purposes only. When preparing their proposals under the National Health Service Act, the Council, on the advice of the Minister, took advantage of their power under Section 29 of the Act, to provide a Domestic Help Service, available as far as workers can be obtained, to the categories of household specified in the Act. The service is now the responsibility of the Superintendent Nursing Officer, and its steady expansion of itself testifies to the previously unsatisfied need in this direction. Statistical details are shown in Table II on page 40.

#### MIDWIVES' ACTS.

Total number of Midwives practising at the end of the year		53
District Nurse Midwives		33
Whole-time Midwives		1
Nurses in Institutions and in Private Practice, 19, viz:-		
(a) Westmorland County Hospital		3
(b) Helme Chase Maternity Home		2
(c) St. Monica's Maternity Home, Kendal		3
(d) Brettargh Holt		3
(e) Kendal Institution		1
(f) Private Practice:—		
Institutions		5
Domiciliary		2
Midwives' Notification Forms received during 1948	were	25
follows:-	were	as
Notification of sending for Medical Aid 211		
Notification of Artificial Feeding 32	1	

Notification	of	Stillbirt	h		-			 7
Notification	of	Death						 1
Notification	of	having	laid	out	a	dead	body	 1

#### Gas Air Analgesia.

The policy of the County Nursing Association was to train as many midwives as possible to administer gas and air, those nurses who had the largest number of cases and were anxious to qualify being selected first for the training courses.

The Council's proposals for the provision of a midwifery service, approved by the Minister, require that all midwives shall be trained and equipped for the induction of analgesia, and this policy is being pushed forward as quickly as vacancies on training courses can be obtained and Relief Staff made available during the period when the midwives are away on the course.

During the period 5th July to 31st December, 1948, midwives have induced Analgesia in 79 cases, and at the end of the year 25 District Nurse Midwives were qualified for the induction of Gas-Air Analgesia.

#### AMBULANCE SERVICES.

Before 5th July, 1948, ambulance services were operated by various authorities in the County as follows:—

Kendal		 2	ambulances
Ambleside		 1	ambulance
Kirkby Steph	en	 1	do.
Appleby		 1	do.
Windermere		 1	do.
Arnside		 1	do.
Penrith		 1	do.

In planning their service to operate from the appointed day, the County Council decided to operate the necessary ambulances directly, except that a part of the north of the County (detailed in the Table below) is covered by the Penrith Ambulance Station of the Cumberland County Council. In an effort to promote efficiency and economy, the Chief Fire Officer has also been appointed County Ambulance Officer and is responsible for the servicing, maintenance, communications and staffing of the Ambulance Service, though a proposal that ambulance drivers and attendants should be engaged also as members of the Fire Brigade has, after consultation with the Ministry of Health and the Home Office, now been rescinded.

Ambulances are now stationed as below:---

Ambulance Station No. 1.		No. of Ambu- lances. 3	Staff. 4 whole- time and retained	Pop., Area Served. 1931. Kendal Borough . 16316 Windermere U.D. 6083 South West'd R.D. 17548 North West'd R.D. : Parishes of Orton 795 Tebay 977
2.	Ambleside Commercial Garage	1	Retained	41719 Lakes U.D. (except Patterdale Ward) 5004 Lancashire (part) Ulverston R.D.: Parishes of— Claife 265 Hawkshead 614 Skelwith 490
3.	Appleby Commercial Garage	1	Retained	6373 Appleby Borough. 1618 North West'd R.D. : All parishes except those served by Stations 1, 4 and 5 5177 6795

Penrith (Service to be provided by Cumberland Coun ty Council) North West'd R.D. : Parishes of Martindale, Bampton, Shap, Shap Rural, Thrimby, Little Strickland, Great Strickland, Lowther, Askham, Barton, Sockbridge, Yanwath, Clifton, Brougham 5340 Lakes U.D.: Patterdale Ward 817

6157

Kirkby Stephen Commercial Garage Retained

North West'd R.D.: Parishes of Brough, Brough Sowerby, Crosby Garrett, Hartley, Hillbeck, Kaber, Kirkby Stephen, Mallerstang, Musgrave, Nateby, Ravenstonedale, Soulby, Stainmore, Waitby, Wharton, Winton ... 5129

The Council decided further that their sitting-case car scheme should be based on the Voluntary Hospital Car Service, and operated under the aegis of the British Red Cross Society, but even after the very considerable increase in the number of enrolled volunteers which has been secured, it is now quite impossible for this voluntary service to meet the demands placed upon it, and recourse has had to be made to the services of commercial car-hire firms and taxi proprietors.

Details of the work done by the ambulance and sitting-case cars are given in Table VII on page 43.

#### **BLIND PERSONS ACTS.**

Under the National Assistance Act, 1948, the County Council no longer has the power to give financial assistance to blind persons, but it is required to "make arrangements for promoting the welfare" not only of blind persons, but also of the partially sighted. Administrative responsibility for this work devolves upon the Council's Social Welfare Department, but the County Medical Officer is responsible for advising the Committee on "all matters relating to health or medical services arising in connection with the Council's functions under the Act . . . . including, in particular, arrangements for the medical examination of applicants for registration as blind persons."

1

1

5.

4.

All such applicants are referred for examination to one of the specialist ophthalmologists with whom the Council has entered into arrangements for this work, and during 1948 thirty-four such cases were referred, of whom twenty were certified.

The total number of Blind Persons on the Council's register on 31st December, 1948, was 104.

#### MENTAL HEALTH.

As advised in Ministry of Health Circular 100/47, the Health Committee has appointed a Mental Health Sub-Committee to deal with its functions under Section 57 of the National Health Service Act, and, so far as they relate to Mental Defectives and Persons of Unsound Mind, under Section 28 of that Act. The Sub-Committee is constituted as follows:—

Chairman and Vice-Chai	irman of th	ne Health	Committe	е	2
Members of the Health	Committee	e (being i	members o	f the	
County Council)					10
Members of the Manage	ment Com	mittees of	f Mental H	los-	
pitals and Mental De	eficiency In	nstitution	s		4
Others (whether member	ers of the H	Iealth Co	mmittee, o	r the	
County Council, or	neither)				3

#### Duties under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

On the 5th July, 1948, this Authority took over from the Cumberland, Westmorland and Carlisle Joint Committee for the Care of the Mentally Defective the duty of ascertaining what defectives in the area were subject to be dealt with under the Acts, and the duty of providing supervision, care, training and occupations for defectives living in the community. Three officers have been authorised to place persons is a place of safety under Section 15 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, and one of these, the Psychiatric Social Worker, has also been authorised to present petitions under that Act.

On the 5th July there were sixteen cases under Guardianship under the Mental Deficiency Acts, and twenty cases under Statutory Supervision. In addition, the Cumberland, Westmorland and Carlisle Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare gave us the names of 38 voluntary cases whose supervision had formerly been undertaken by that Association.

There were 103 Health Service patients belonging to the County of Westmorland in Certified Institutions. Eleven of these were on licence, four being on licence within the area. In addition, there were two patients belonging to other Counties who were on licence in Westmorland.

#### New Cases Referred.

In the period from 5th July to 31st December, 1948, four new cases were referred to the Authority for investigation. One was referred by a local clergyman, one by her parents and two by the Weifare Authority. All four were found to be defective and subject to be dealt with under the Acts. Two are awaiting admission to an Institution. The other two had been accepted for institutional care and vacancies obtained for them, but they left the area before they could be admitted. One has since been admitted to an Institution, but the whereabouts of the other are unknown.

During this period no patients were admitted to Certified Institutions, but arrangements were made for one child to go to an Approved Home as a Health Service patient.

The Authority has undertaken, on behalf of the Regional Hospital Boards, the supervision of cases on licence from Institutions who are resident within the area. During the period, employment in a local hospital was found for one new patient from Dovenby.

The Authority has also undertaken on behalf of the Regional Hospital Boards the domiciliary visiting, as and when required, for patients in Institutions and Homes whose parents and friends are resident in Westmorland.

The Authority took over from the 5th July the financial responsibility for the Guardianship cases. Grants to these cases were formerly paid by the Joint Committee, but in view of Circular 177/48 the National Assistance Board have subsequently taken over this responsibility.

#### **Occupation Centre.**

The question of establishing an Occupation Centre in Kendal has been considered, but it was found that there were not enough children to make a full-time Centre possible. It was, however, decided to start with an Occupation Class for adults, run on the lines of a club, and a commencement was made early in 1949. Further information will be given in the Annual Report for that year.

#### Duties under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

Three officers (including the Psychiatric Social Worker) have been appointed as Duly Authorised Officers to take initial proceedings under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and in the period from 5th July to 31st December they have been called upon on 15 occasions. The Psychiatric Social Worker attends the fortnightly sessions of the psychiatric out-patient clinic held in Kendal by Garlands Hospital, and she also does any visiting which may be required on behalf of patients in or discharged from that hospital or any other mental hospital.

She has also, from time to time, been asked by other Social Agencies and others to visit and advise in cases where the problem is thought to be of a psychiatric nature.

#### **Transport of Patients.**

In the case of patients who are acting, or who appear likely to act, violently, the Council's Ambulance Service is used for their removal to Hospital, but docile cases are taken by taxi under arrangements made with a car hire firm in Kendal.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY ANALYST.

1. During the twelve months ended 31st December, 1948, I have analysed 353 samples of Food and Drugs submitted by the Sampling Officers appointed for the County of Westmorland, under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and by the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Borough of Kendal, viz.:—

From the Administrative County Area	 242
From the Borough of Kendal	 111
	353

2. Compared with the year ended the 31st December, 1947, the number of samples submitted from the Administrative County Area shows an increase of 37, and from the Borough of Kendal an increase of five samples throughout the year.

3. The outcome of the analysis of samples submitted during 1948, which includes all those which were found not to be of genuine quality or to disclose some other irregularity is shown in the following table:—

Number of milk samp	ples recei	ved for an	alysis		238
Number of samples of	f articles	other than	milk r	eceived	
for analysis				enex 9	115

353

22

Number of samples adulterated or below standard	31
Number of samples of genuine quality, but below	
standard	40
Number of samples showing some irregularity, or of	
doubtful quality	2
Number of informal samples	100
Number of Appeal samples	15
Number of Reference samples taken either in course	
of delivery or in course of transit	3

Compared with the figures reported for the year ended the 31st December, 1947, it appears that three more samples were reported as being adulterated or below standard, 16 samples more than in the latter year were returned as being of genuine quality but below standard, 11 more samples were dealt with as informal samples, whilst one sample more was received as a reference sample of milk, taken in course of delivery, and four more samples of milk taken on appeal to the cow were dealt with and, in addition, two other samples were returned (a) as disclosing some irregularity and (b) as being of doubtful quality.

The sample disclosing the irregularity was an informal sample of a milk derivative associated with other matters which, under the microscope, disclosed the presence of fibres derived from hay or straw, together with other vegetable debris of the character of woody fibres and cellular tissues and many cells obtained from some yeast.

In the case of the sample which has been reported as being of doubtful quality, the emphasis is laid upon the fact that milk of high quality—and reference to the report for the last quarter will show how high a quality can be expected with regard to the content of non-fatty solids, indicates the possibility of the addition of substantial amounts of water while still keeping the sample within the range set up in the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939.

The sample in question is one of those which, although complying with the requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, was shown to contain extraneous water through the result of the freezing point, and this may well have been to the extent of at least 5 per cent.

The number of samples of milk submitted for analysis during the year amounted to 220 taken in the ordinary course of inspection, as compared with 222 samples taken in the same way during the year ended the 31st December, 1947.

The result of the analyses of these samples showed that eight samples were deficient both in non-fatty solids and in fat, eight samples were deficient in fat only, one sample was deficient both in non-fatty solids and in fat, and another sample connected with this one was deficient in non-fatty solids only, resulting in proceedings being instituted, and the vendors were fined 20s.

Two other samples were reported as being deficient in non-fatty solids owing to the addition of water and in this case a point was raised as to whether or not possession of the milk had passed from the producer at a particular point, with the result that the Magistrates dismissed the information; but in this case an appeal has been lodged and the decision will be given in due course.

A further case in which there was a deficiency in non-fatty solids, proceedings were instituted, and at the hearing the Magistrates found the case to be proved and inflicted a fine of 20s.

Another sample was deficient in non-fatty solids and the addition of water was confirmed by the freezing point test, but no proceedings were undertaken owing to some technical difficulty.

There are also two samples deficient in non-fatty solids owing to the addition of water and one sample deficient in fat, which are under consideration at the end of the year.

The percentage of adulteration for milk during 1948 was 11.81; for the year ended 31st December, 1947, it was 11.71.

#### 4. OTHER SAMPLES.

Articles other than milk received for analysis during the year ended the 31st December, 1948, amounted to 115, which were 39 in excess of the number received during the year ended the 31st December, 1947.

These mostly represented samples of food, or of commodities used in the preparation of food, non-alcoholic cordials and spirits.

Altogether five samples were the subject of adverse reports and these comprised an informal sample of a Dried Milk which was heavily infested by mites and contained other undesirable matters not present in Dried Milk kept under suitably clean conditions; two samples of Toffee, described respectively as "Extra Cream" and "Real Eutter" Toffee, neither of which were prepared with genuine butter or cream; and two samples of Cake Mixture and Scone Flour Mixture, both heavily mite-infested.

The percentage of adulteration for the year ended the 31st December, 1948, is 9.55; for the twelve months ended the 31st December, 1947, it was 9.73.

CYRIL J. H. STOCK, County Analyst.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1948.

During the period 1st January to 31st December, 1948, in the County administrative area, excluding the Borough of Kendal, a total of 257 samples were obtained under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the purpose of analysis by the Public Analyst.

Of the total number of samples, 179 were of milk and 78 of food products other than milk.

#### Milk Samples.

The Food and Drugs Act makes it an offence to sell milk to which has been added water, separated milk, condensed milk, dried milk, mixtures of separated milk and cream, colouring matter or preservatives. It has been found in practice that by far the most common form of adulteration of milk is by the addition of water either by accident or design.

The Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, provide that where milk contains less than 3 per cent. of milk fat or less than 8.5 per cent. of milk solids other than fat it shall be presumed not genuine by reason of the abstraction of fat or solids not fat or by the addition of water, until the contrary is proved.

It should be noted that a sample is merely presumed to be adulterated if it has not reached the desired standard of composition, and legal proceedings against the vendor are not likely to be undertaken until further investigations also indicate that the milk has been adulterated. The legal provisions do not overlook the fact that genuine milk may be below the required standard, neither do they imply that a milk sample is necessarily genuine because it contains more than 3 per cent. fat and 8.5 per cent. of non-fatty solids. Legal proceedings are taken only after check tests have been made, based upon "Appeal to Cow" Samples, which are taken after the same cows are milked under supervision at a corresponding milking. The freezing point test is used by the Public Analyst as a confirmatory test for the presence of extraneous water in milk.

Complaints from one purchaser and one Food and Drugs Authority were received in respect of four milk producers in the County area. Investigation of the complaints indicated in all cases that the milk, although below standard, was in the same condition as produced by the respective herds of cows.

		Fotal.	Genuine.	but	nuine below dard in: S.N.F.	Doubt- ful.		low dard: Added Water.
Formal		94	63		11	1	10	9
Reference or fo	ol-							
low up sam	ples	2	2		-	-	-	
Appeal to Cow		16	5	_	11		-	
Informal		58	35		20	_	1	2
	-				-	-	-	-
	1	170	105	_	42	. 1	11	11
	-			-	-	-	-	

**Classification of Milk Samples.** 

In addition to the above tabular classification, four "Reference" and five "Appeal to Cow" samples were obtained at the request and on behalf of the City of Lancaster Food and Drugs Authority. The samples in this case were sent direct to the Public Analyst for the City of Lancaster.

The major proportion of the total number of samples classified as "Genuine but below standard in Solids-not-fat" were obtained during the period March, April, May, at which time of the year it is not unreasonable to expect a slightly less than average standard, but in this particular instance the deficiencies were sufficiently large as to provide a cause for concern to bulk purchasers, producers and persons engaged in handling and marketing of milk. An improvement in the quality was observed commencing during the latter part of May.

The "Doubtful" sample contained 3.95 per cent. fat and 8.54 per cent. Solids-not-fat, but the freezing point test indicated that such figures could be obtained by adding 5 per cent. of water to a milk containing 9.0 per cent. of non-fatty solids. Of the formal samples below standard in fat, nine indicated deficiencies ranging from 3.3 per cent. to 11.7 per cent. and the vendors were either cautioned or names were noted with a view to obtaining further samples. One sample with a fat deficiency of 28 per cent. was made the subject of a report to the Clerk to the County Council and, having regard to certain special circumstances, a warning letter was sent to the vendor.

Legal proceedings were instituted in respect of five of the nine formal samples containing added water. Of the remainder, two milk producers were warned in respect of two samples and a further two samples were not made the subject of legal proceedings having regard to a previous decision of the Magistrates in a similar case.

Prosecutions.			Added Water.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Pending at 31st	1		8 per cent.		2 0 0		1 10 0
December, 1947	1		7 per cent.		Dismissed		
	1		3.8 per cent.		1 0 0		
	1		4.3 per cent.		2 0 0		1 15 0
	2	••	6.3 per cent. 7.3 per cent.	•••	2 10 0	•••	6 14 0
-	2	• •	11 per cent. 14.5 per cent.		Dismissed		(Appeal pending)
	1		8 per cent.		1 0 0		

#### Samples other than Milk.

The 78 samples analysed comprise 74 formal and four informal and consist of:---

5 Whisky.	3 Baking powder.
2 Pudding mixture.	3 Fish and tomato sausage.
2 Gelatine.	2 Ground ginger.
2 Semolina.	2 Coffee.
2 Orange juice.	2 Butter.
And one each of 53 different other	articles of food.

Unsatisfactory features as indicated by the certificates of analysis were as follows:---

Unsatisfactory Sample. Features. Action Taken.
Real Butter Toffee Fat other than Butter Name of product Fat changed to Ever-
Dried Skimmed Milk Not fit for human con Condemned by Sani-
(informal sample) sumption: infested by tary Inspector. maggots and food mites
Orange Cake Mixture Infested by mites, unfit Stock withdrawn for human consump- from sale.
Unsweetened Scone Infested by mites, unfit Stock withdrawn Flour for human consump- from sale.
Extra Cream Toffee Negligible amount of Change of name of Milk Fat product.

Letters of caution were sent to the vendors and reports were sent to the respective Sanitary Authorities where necessary.

#### Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943

Orders made under the above Regulations prescribe standards of composition for certain articles of food, e.g., mustard, salad cream, mayonnaise, liquid coffee essences, jam, marmalade, fruit curd, mincemeat, self-raising flour, baking powder, etc., and since any sample below the standard (if applicable) prescribed in the Defence Regulations would be adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst it is not considered necessary to take samples under these Regulations in addition to samples under the Food and Drugs Act.

#### The Labelling of Food Order, 1946.

This is an Order designed specifically to protect the purchaser of foods prepacked for retail sale by requiring, subject to certain exemptions, the identity of the packer and the composition and quantity of the food packed, to be stated on he label.

Duties under this Order are carried out by taking samples under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, to check statements of composition, and by examination and test weighings in conjunction with duties under the Weights and Measures Acts, 1878-1936, in order to check the statements of quantity.

Arising from 199 visits to premises, 3,691 pre-packed articles were examined and 46 minor infringements were noted.

#### Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933, and Poisons Rules, 1935.

The number of listed sellers of poisons included in Part II of the Poisons List in the County on the 31st December, 1948, was 173. The number of visits to premises during the period under review was 201, arising from which 14 persons were cautioned in connection with technical infringements.

Thirty-five (35) traders made applications to become listed sellers and seven traders discontinued the sale of such poisons.

A. BRYANT,

Inspector and Sampling Officer.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

A table will be found on page 45 detailing the incidence of these diseases in 1948. The Registrar-General has supplied figures as to the incidence per 1,000 of the estimated average population of notification of certain diseases in 1948 in England and Wales. In the following table the incidence of notification of these diseases in Westmorland is compared with that of England and Wales:—

		1	Westm	orland.	England &	& Wales.
			1947.	1948.	1947.	1948.
Typhoid Fever				-	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever			-		0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	5410		0.03		0.05	0.03
Scarlet Fever		• • • •	0.45	0.76	1.37	1.73
Whooping Cough			1.88	2.10	2.22	3.42
Diphtheria			0.06	12031	0.13	0.08
Erysipelas			0.17	0.07	0.19	0.21
Smallpox						-
Measles	er		8.67	9.48	9.41	9.34
Pneumonia			0.41	0.24	0.79	0.73
Acute Poliomyelitis					—	0.04
Acute Polioencephalitis	17			0.01		0.00
	a-1.					

#### CANCER TREATMENT.

Arrangements were made by the County Council under Section 1 of the Cancer Act, 1939, and were approved by the Minister of Health on the 24th June, 1942.

Provision was made for:-

- (a) A clinic for diagnosis and observation after treatment, to be held at the County Hospital, Kendal, once each month, conducted by the Director of the Holt Radium Institute, Manchester.
- (b) Radio-therapeutic treatment and in-patient accommodation at the Holt Radium Institute.
- (c) Surgical treatment and in-patient accommodation at County Hospital, Kendal, and the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester.

Number of Clinics held at Kendal during the year end-

ing 31st December, 1948		 12
Number of new cases seen		 96
Number of follow-up cases s	een	 188

Number of cases admitted to	the Coun	ty Hospital	:				
New cases			3	1			
Follow-up cases			–	-			
Number of cases admitted to chester:	Christie 1	Hospital, M	an-				
New cases			3	4			
Follow-up cases				7			
Number of cases attending for out-patient treatment at the Christie Hospital, Manchester:—							
New cases				9			
Follow-up cases				1			

The only duty now remaining to the County Council under the Cancer Act concerns the prohibition of advertisements relating to the treatment of cancer and to the sale of articles for use in the treatment thereof. The actual treatment of this condition now forms part of the general hospital and specialist services which it is the duty of the Regional Hospital Boards to provide.

#### Deaths from Cancer, 1947 and 1948.

		1947.			1948.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Urban Districts	33	40	73	33	30	63
Rural Districts	28	36	64	25	47	72
					Lang parts	
	Grand	Total	137	Grand '	Fotal	135
			and a state of the			100 Del

30

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

In the following table are the figures for the notifications of, and deaths from, Tuberculosis in 1948.

New Cases.			Deaths.					
Age Periods.	Respiratory.		Non- Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non- Respiratory.	
Le la mén	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.
0	-		-	-	100	2 Taxo		-
1	-	_	2	- 1	1-14	-	1	1
5	-	-	4.	2	-	-	1	-
15	5	13	1	2	2	4	7- 9	1
25	9	5	-	3	1	4	-	-
35	1	4	1		1	3	en <u>t</u> ar	10.00
45	1	-	1	2	1		_	2
55	4	1	1	1	-	-	1	
65	1	1		-	1			phan .
TOTAL	21	23	10	11	6	11	3	4
1947	37	18	8	12	9	9	3	1

**TUBERCULOSIS IN 1948.** 

In 1948, 45 patients were admitted to the Westmorland Sanatorium, Meathop.

Thirteen patients suffering from surgical tuberculosis of the bones or joints received in-patient treatment as follows:—

In the Ethel Hedley Orthopaedic Hospit	tal	i) polizio i	1
In the Oswestry Hospital			5
In Wrightington Hospital			2
In Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool	ortz		3
In Shelton Hospital, Shrewsbury			1
In Royal Children's Hospital, Heswall		ciel, opura	1

#### PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS-GRANTS.

The Council's scheme was inaugurated on the 1st July, 1943, and six new applications for grants were received and allowed from 1st January, 1948, to the 4th July, 1948. Eleven cases were receiving grants on the 5th July, 1948, on which date responsibility was assumed by the National Assistance Board. Prior to this date the following grants had been made:—

Maintenance	Discretionary	Special	
Allowances.	Allowances.	Payments.	Total.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
370 18 5	12 8 1	and the second second	383 6 6

#### TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

During the first half of the year the County Council's arrangements for the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis continued. Under this scheme the Westmorland County Council paid the Board of Governors of Westmorland Sanatorium for services which included the Superintendent acting as Clinical Tuberculosis Officer, the use of the Sanatorium laboratory for examining specimens sent in from the county, the clerical work involved in keeping records and returns, the supplying and taking of X-ray films in connection with county work, and the treatment of out-patients (e.g. refills).

The main dispensary was at the Chest Clinic, Fellside School, Kendal, where sessions were held on Mondays, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Fridays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A quarterly session was held at the old First Aid Post, Appleby, from 1-30 p.m. to 3 p.m. on the first Saturday of February, May, August and November, and patients were also seen, by appointment, at Meathop.

Until February, 1947, all X-ray work and out-patient treatment for the county was carried out at the Westmorland Sanatorium, but since then the provision of a Solus X-ray Set at the Kendal Clinic has almost entirely relieved the Sanatorium of this work, though the exposed films from the clinic are taken to the Sanatorium for developing, as no provision has been made for this in Kendal. Largely owing to this addition to the equipment, the attendances at the Dispensary showed a steady increase.

 Pulmonary cases requiring treatment were admitted to Westmorland Sanatorium, though in a few cases transfer to another hospital (such as Chest Unit, Broadgreen Hospital, Liverpool) was made for special operative treatment. The majority of the adult non-pulmonary cases have been admitted to the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry, whilst child patients usually go to the Ethel Hedley Orthopaedic Hospital, Windermere.

Although responsibility for the treatment of tuberculous patients passed to the Regional Hospital Board on 5th July, 1948, leaving prevention and after-care as the only responsibilities of the County Council, we have been fortunate in being able to retain the services and advice of Dr. Campbell, during the change-over period, and although his transfer to the Regional Hospital Board has now somewhat loosened his ties with the Health Department, it is indeed comforting to know that in his new capacity as Chest Physician in the Lancaster and Kendal area, he will retain responsibility for the tuberculosis service in the greater part of the county.

In view of the fact that the Kendal Dispensary, although it is being continued as before, does not necessarily draw all its patients from Westmorland, whilst on the other hand some Westmorland cases attend dispensaries in Lancaster and Carlisle, a table showing details of the Kendal Dispensary Register similar to that included on page 30 of last year's report would not now be strictly applicable to the County and has therefore been omitted.

#### **BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS.**

The Tuberculosis Order, 1938, is carried out by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, in co-operation with the County Police.

Cows in Milk:---

- 4 suffered from tuberculous udders,
- 10 suffered from chronic cough,
- 1 with T.B. milk.
- 6 excreting or discharging tuberculous material.

Other cows-

- 13 suffered from chronic cough,
- 3 suffered from tuberculous udders.

Compensation to owners is paid by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

We desire to thank the Divisional Inspector for his ever-ready and valued help in investigating bovine tuberculosis.

# BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

The systematic examination of milk samples for the bacterial count and for the presence of Bacillus Tuberculosis was commenced in November, 1932.

The following figures deal with the period 1st January, 1948, to the 31st December, 1948:—

# **BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.**

(For the presence of Bacillus Tuberculosis.)

Total Cows.	Samples	reported	on.	T.BNeg.	Pos
412	10 Tes	43		43	

The foregoing figures show that in the biological examination of milk for Bacillus Tuberculosis, of the 43 samples representing the milk from 412 cows, no samples were positive.

Immediately on receipt of a positive Laboratory Report on a sample, the Divisional Inspector is informed and makes arrangements for the examination of the herds involved, for the exclusion from the milk herd of any suspected cows, for the taking of individual samples from such cows for biological examination, and for a bulk sample being taken from the rest of the herd. Cows proved to be yielding the germ in their milk are destroyed.

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK. (Methylene Blue Test for Cleanliness.)

		No. of	Satis-	Unsati	s- Neg.		lli pres	
	Total Cows.	bulk Samples	fac- s. tory.		for B.Coli.	in 1 tube 2	1/100r tubes	
Non-designated		-	In allowing the					
Producers	373	60	37	23	22	4	5	11
(Of the 60 s					eat sam		Resul	t: 2

Nineteen samples of pasteurised milk were tested by the Phosphatase Test and were all satisfactory.

The regular supervision of Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk is carried out by the Agricultural Executive Committee. A duplicate copy of the Laboratory Report on each sample is sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the Westmorland Combined Districts, who, through the various Sanitary Inspectors, informs the milk producer. Copies of unsatisfactory reports are also sent to the County Agricultural Organiser.

When an unsatisfactory report is received, steps are taken to encourage the producer in question to overhaul his methods of production and to secure cleaner milk. The active co-operation of the County Agricultural Organiser is invaluable here.

#### WATER SUPPLIES.

My Annual Report for 1947 included, on pages 33 to 46, lengthy extracts from the Reports of Dr. F. T. Madge, Medical Officer of Health for the Westmorland Combined Districts, on the water supplies in the various parts of the County, and the following comments on the present situation, are again compiled from information obtained from the same source.

#### Appleby Borough.

The public supply is described as adequate in quantity and satisfactory in quality, although pressure in the higher parts of the Borough is said to be rather poor.

#### Kendal Borough.

In this District also the public water supply is adequate and satisfactory; only 45 houses in the Borough are not connected to the Corporation supply system, and of these, 13 are connected to the Thirlmere aqueduct, the remainder depending on private wells and surface sources.

#### Lakes Urban District.

The public water supply system in this District is restricted to the Ambleside, Grasmere and Chapel Stile areas. Of these supplies Grasmere is unfailing in quantity, Ambleside is adequate except in periods of drought, but the Chapel Stile system runs very short in dry weather and its quality is variable.

A scheme to augment the latter supply is in course of construction and will enable additional water to be pumped from a sumphole in the valley gravel bed near New Bridge into the rising main of the existing system. After chlorination this water will be mixed with that from the Meg's Ghyll source. This scheme is designed for use in times of drought, but could also be used to meet any increased demand caused by extension of the present mains system. A major scheme for both the Langdale valleys, at present under consideration, will, if carried out, supersede both the Meg's Ghyll and New Bridge supplies.

Although present circumstances preclude a comprehensive survey of the private supplies in the area, distress is evident after no more than a fortnight's dry weather—this in one of the wettest parts of the country—whilst the quality of many of the supplies is doubtful to say the least.

Schemes for Patterdale and the Langdales, which were under consideration as long ago as 1935, still remain in the "paper stage"; and schemes for Troutbeck and Hartsop are also in course of preparation.

#### Windermere Urban District.

Supplies in this district are reported to be adequate in quantity and fairly satisfactory in quality, though some contamination seems inevitable. The Dubbs supply catchment area is the scene of the annual sheepdog trials and steps were taken to minimise pollution on the occasion of the 1948 event, and to exclude sheep from the vicinity of the reservoir.

Dr. Madge reports that the condition of the Ghyll Head Supply has deteriorated, the gathering ground being used by the owners for field craft training and camping, with a serious risk of pollution. As a safety measure chlorination is proposed during the next camping season.

In this area also private supplies are thought to be of very variable quality.

#### North Westmorland Rural District.

Apart from the Blea Water Scheme, mains from which extend into 25 parishes, public supplies from numerous sources are available in 26 other parishes, but laboratory examinations and chemical analyses carried out during the year have shown that the quality of some, at least, of these supplies is indifferent, and the Medical Officer is undertaking personal investigations into all the public sources of supply. The quality and quantity of the many private supplies in the District are also considered to be variable. The Regional Scheme, the scope of which was restricted by the limited borrowing powers in force at the time of its inception, is now inadequate for the needs of some parts of the area which it serves, and work on the construction of balancing reservoirs at Hackthorpe, Newby and Maulds Meaburn was in progress at the end of the year. Efforts to reduce wastage are being made by fitting meters at dairy farms.

Little progress is reported on the proposed new schemes detailed on page 42 of last year's report.

#### South Westmorland Rural District.

In this District the Council's undertakings supply 24 parishes, the Manchester Corporation's Thirlmere Aqueduct supplies some of the houses on its route through 10 parishes, and some of the houses in 3 parishes draw supplies from Kendal Corporation's mains. Commercial undertakings and private supplies cater for a considerable portion of the District. In 16 parishes there is no organised public or private supply whatever, and Dr. Madge points out that it cannot be assumed that the supplies to the remaining parishes are adequate.

It is hoped that the Lyth Valley, where the supply is particularly bad, will be served by an extension of the main Lupton system during the next few years. The quality of the public supplies, with the exception of that at Natland, is generally good, but of 84 private sources tested during the year, 53 were stated to be unsatisfactory in quality.

The proposed scheme to extend the Lupton supply to the Lyth Valley area has received the sanction of the Minister of Health and the Council hopes to make an early start on this urgently needed extension. Minor improvements and extensions were carried out during 1948 at Endmoor, Stainton Mill Bridge and part of Stainton Parish (to be extended later to Natland), at Old Hutton, including a supply for the new Council Houses at Middleshaw, at Selside and Skelsmergh, and also at Garth Row.

#### TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

Westmorland cases treated at the following Centres for the year ended 31st December, 1948, are as follow:—

#### NEW CASES.

		Soft		Non- venereal & undiagnosed	
Centre.	Syphilis.	Chancre.	Gonorrhoea.		land.
Lancaster	 6	1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	5	7	82
Carlisle	 		1	11	67
*Kendal	 10	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	6 .	15	365
			P	-	
Total	 16	-	12	33	514
		-			

\*From 4th June, 1948, only.

A Venereal Diseases Clinic commenced at the Fellside Dispensary, Kendal, on the 4th June, 1948, and is attended weekly by Dr. Fessler, of Lancashire.

The session is for 2 hours—1 hour for men and 1 hour for women. The following number of new cases (patients transferred from Lancaster are not included), attended the Kendal Clinic from the 4th June to the 31st Deecmber, 1948:—

Syphilis			.10
Gonorrhoea	·		6
N.V.D.			15
Total number	of atten	dances-	365.

#### MENTAL AND NERVOUS DISORDERS CLINIC.

This clinic was commenced at the Fellside Dispensary, Kendal, on Thursday, the 30th November, 1944, and thereafter fortnightly from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The clinic is conducted by Dr. Joseph Braithwaite, M.B., D.P.M., Superintendent of the Cumberland and Westmorland Mental Hospital, Garlands, Carlisle.

Dr. Braithwaite reports as follows with regard to the attendances at the Kendal Clinic during the year 1948:—

New cases seen-Males 21; Females 28. Total 49.

Suffering from:-

Psychoses	 	19
Neurosis (various types)	 	28
Mental Deficiency	 	1
Enuresis	 	1

49

Total No.

Total number of attendances at Clinic-115.

This also is a service which is now the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, and although the arrangements have so far continued unchanged, the time cannot now be far distant when the Board will wish to make permanent arrangements with regard thereto, though it seems fairly safe to say that the service originally provided under the auspices of the County Council will continue to remain available to the inhabitants of the district.

#### RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Rodent Operatives have been fully occupied during the year 1948. 321 operations have been carried out and the estimated number of rats killed was 1,646, and mice 1,080. 64 Annual Contracts have been entered into totalling a sum of £322 12s. 0d. The sum of £24 14s. 10d. has been charged for non-contract work.

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES. CIVIL NURSING RESERVE.

The Minister of Health, after consultation with the Civil Nursing Reserve Advisory Council, decided that the Civil Nursing Reserve should cease to exist as a separate entity on the 5th July, 1948.

#### STATISTICAL TABLES.

The following tables are a simplified version of the Annual Returns now required by the Ministry of Health, and although they relate only to the period during which the National Health Service Act, 1946, was in operation, i.e. from 5th July, 1948, to 31st December, 1948, they are inserted here as an indication of the form in which most of the statistical information in future Annual Reports will appear.

#### TABLE I.

### ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

	No. of clinics provided.	No. of sessions per month.	No. of Women who attended.	No. of women in col. 4 who had not attended a clinic since previous confinement.	Total attendances.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Antenatal	} 1 (antenatal and post-	4	( 82	53	218
Postnatal	) natal)		23	21	29

## TABLE II.

# DOMESTIC HELPS.

.

a)	Number of Domestic Helps	employ	yea at sist	December	r, 1948.	
	. (1) Whole-time					6
	(2) Part-time			Planbave 		16
b)	Number of cases where he	lp was	provided	NA STAL		67

# TABLE III.

# HOME NURSING.

.

A. Y. Seat	No. of Hom employed or Whole-time on Home Nursing. (1)	Contract of the second s	Equivalent of Whole- time services devoted to Home Nursing in Cols. (1) and (2). (3)	No. of Visits paid by Home Nurses during the period. (4)	No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during the period. (5)
WILLIAM	2	33	11.3	31,338	1,503

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TABLE IV.

ndances made uded in col. 3: Over 1 year old. (9)	1013
Total No. of attendances made by children included in col. 3: Under 1 Over 1 year old. year old. (8) (9)	1154
No. of children who were at end of year: Under 1 Over 1 year old. year old. (6) (7)	575
No. of who were al Under 1 year old. (6)	341
No. of children first attended and who ere on first attendance: Juder 1 Over 1 ear old. year old. (4) (5)	250
who u v	394
No. of children who attended. (3)	916
No. of sessions per month. (2)	25.8
Number provided. (1)	16

# HEALTH VISITING.

10. A straight where	ors: ors: d: Trist Total s. (10) (11) (11)	6 Nil. Nil.
	by Health Visitors: Children between 1 and 5 years old: First Total Visits. Visits. (8) (9)	Not ob- 4806 tainable
	No. of Visits Paid Children under 1 year old: First Total Visits. Visits. (6) (7)	493 3966
TABLE V.	Expectant Mothers: Image: Comparison of	316 1497 4
The stationer - 42 Pe	Equivalent of Cols. 1 Expo and 2 in terms of whole-time $F$ Health Visitors. Vii (3)	12.8 3
	itors employed: Part-time on Health Visiting. (2)	32
	No. of Health Visitors employed: Whole-time on Part-time on Health Visiting. Health Visiting (1) (2)	2

MIDWIVES' ACTS, 1902-1936.-RETURN OF LOCAL SUPERVISING

AUTHORITY.

1. Maternity Cases Attended.

TABLE VI.

	(appendix)	Contraction of the second seco	The second se	No. 1	a harry opposite a	
As1	Domio Midwives.	No. of Maternity Cases in the area attended by Midwives during the period: Domiciliary Cases: Cases in Institutions: As Midwives. As Maternity Nurses As Midwives As Mat	ises in the are Cases in As Midwives.	the area attended by 1 Cases in Institutions: wives. As Maternity	Midwives during the Nurses As Midwives	attended by Midwives during the period: nstitutions: As Maternity Nurses As Midwives As Maternity Nurses.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(2)	(9)	(1)
Midwives employed by:					i i	
(a) the Authority	86	92	Nil.	Nil.	86	92
(b) Voluntary Organisations	Nil.	Nil.	59	3	59	ŝ
(c) Hospital Management		200 200	-		E	160
Committees	Nil.	Nil.	57	138	10	001
Midwives in private practice	Nil.	Nil.	14	78	14	78
	1		1			1
· Totals	86	92	130	239	216	331
		1				

2.	Midwives in Private Practice.	
	(a) Domiciliary 2	
	(b) In Nursing Homes 5	
	Medical Aid under Casting 44 (4) of the Miduluse Act 4	040
3.	Medical Aid under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1	
	No. of cases in which medical aid was summoned du	ring th
pe	riod:—	
	(a) for domiciliary cases:—	
	(i) Where the Medical Practitioner had ar-	
	ranged to provide Maternity Medical Ser-	
	vices under the National Health Service	
	Act, 1946 28	
	(ii) Other cases 19	
		4
	(b) for cases in Institutions	3
1.	Administration of Analgesia.	
	(a) Number of Midwives in practice in the area	
	qualified to administer analgesics:	
	(i) Domiciliary 25	
	(ii) In Institutions	
	(II) IN INSULUCIONS 8	3
	(b) Number of sets of Analgesic apparatus in use	0
	by the Authority's midwives	2
		2
	(c) Number of cases in which Analgesics were administered	-
	aummistereu	7

## TABLE VII

# AMBULANCE SERVICES.

				Number of accident and	
(1)		Fotal No. of calls. (3)	Total No. of patients carried. (4)	emergency calls included in col. (3). (5)	Total mileage during period. (6)
Ambulances	7	678	740	91	28,835
Cars	See below*	535	264	Nil	21,953

NOTE:—\*The Sitting Case Car Service was provided by voluntary drivers enrolled by the British Red Cross Society; at the end of the year fifty-seven drivers were on the roll.

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Excitements where the subscription in the second se	_	_	_					
Food Poisoning	1	2	1	1	1	1	5	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis		1	1	1	L	1	1	1
Acute Polio- Encephalitis		1	1	1	1	4	1	5
Cerebro-Spinal Fever				1		1		2
Encephalitis Lethargica.	1	1	1	1		1	1	1
Whooping Cough	19		4	2	100	10	140	122
Measles	28	13	17.	35	331	208	632	561
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			1			-	1	4
Pyrexia Puerperal	1	2	1	1	5	1	2	13
Dysentery Sonne		2	1	1	1	1 120	3	PI CO
Dysentery				1		9	9	das
Malaria	1		1		3	1	4	1
Poliomyelitis Poliomyelitis	1		1	1	1	1		23
Undulant Fever.			1	1	1	I	1	3
Pneumonia .		L	1		14	1	16	27
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	3	1		3	10	21	20
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	12	1	4	14	13	44	55
Erysipelas	1	-	1	4	5		3	11
Diphtheria	1	1		1			1	4
Scarlet Fever	3	ŝ	. 11	3	18	11	51	29
Smallpox			1					1
an di pabhean a canada a la canada a la canada a la canada a	Appleby	Kendal	Lakes	Windermere	N Westmorland	S Westmorland	Totals 1948	Totals 1947

	and the second sec		-	And in case of the local division of the loc	_		and the local division of the local division	the second second second	Contraction in the local sequences		of the local division in the local division of the local divisiono	the same in the last	Contract of the local division of the local	the second s	_
Food Poisoning	1		1	1	1	1				1	1		2	53	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	·	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		-	1	1
Acute Polio- Encephalitis					1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	1		Ι		1					Ι	1	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica				1	1	1		-			1				1
Whooping Cough	6	14	23	17	17	51	9	١.	2	1	1		140	1	1
Measles	15	46	65	53	60	298	52	14	21	9	1	1	632	12	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		4	1		1	5	1	
Dysentery Sonne		1.	1	1		1					1		3	2	
Dysentery		2	1	1		1			1	1	2		9		1
Malaria	1		1	1			1		67	1			4		1
Acute Poliomyelitis.			1	i				1							1
Undulant Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1.	1		1		1	1
Pneumonia.		1	5	1	Ĩ		1	1	4	1	32	1	16	1	1
Erysipelas.								1	1		3	1	5		1
Diphtheria.		1				1			1	1					
Scarlet Fever.		2	-	2	3	21	10	4	4	61	1	-	51	34	1
Smallpox.		1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1			1
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		:	:	:	:	fied	A to	:
Ages.	year	:	:	:	:	:	-	-	-	:	:	over	s noti	tal	Deaths
	Under 1	I	6	3	+	5	-01	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 and over	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total De

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1948. I CTURELEDINGSCICLE LUCENCESCO DERN FESSES.

