

by the Board as they perfected their system of control. It will be sufficient to give some account of the ultimate conditions observed during the last year of the war, and the extent to which they were retained in peace-time.

The actual area under control comprises about 500 square miles, and extends from Ecclefechan in Dumfriesshire to Maryport in Cumberland. It contains a population of about 140,000, of whom 52,000 live in Carlisle. Maryport, the next largest town, has 10,000 inhabitants, and the only other town in the area is Annan. The whole area contained 368 licensed premises, of which 321 were taken over by the Board. In Carlisle itself there were 119 licensed premises and four breweries, almost all of which were taken over. Acquisition was compulsory, the compensation paid being usually settled without much delay by mutual agreement; but a few of the claims were not settled even by October, 1921. The Board thereby became brewers, hotel-keepers, publicans, and wine and spirit dealers. The administration of these undertakings was put in the hands of a local advisory committee of twenty-four persons, and a resident general manager. In his report for the year 1920, the general manager summarised the Board's policy under the following heads:

- (a) Fewer and better houses.
- (b) The provision of food and non-intoxicants in those houses where there is likely to be a demand for them.
- (c) The general improvement of the conditions under which the whole trade is carried on.
- (d) The elimination of private interest in the sale of intoxicants.