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Contributors

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ABERGAVENTNY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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July, 1943.



Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a brief interim report for the year 1942 prepared on the lines indicated by the Ministry and Welsh Board of Health.

I. BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Total number of births.....	127
Legitimate.....	116
Illegitimate.....	11
Total number of deaths.....	99
Total number of Stillbirths.....	6
Legitimate.....	6
Illegitimate.....	Nil
Total number of infant deaths (under one year).....	6
Live birth rate per 1,000 of population.....	14.5
Stillbirth " " " "61
Death rate " " " "	11.4
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births.....	47.2

II. NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Number Notified</u>	<u>Number treated in Hospital</u>	<u>Number of Deaths</u>
Diphtheria	1	1	Nil
Scarlet Fever	4	3	"
Cerebrospinal Fever	2	2	"
Measles	3	Nil	"
Whooping Cough	2	Nil	"
Encephalitis lethargica	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	Nil	Nil

Though the number notified is small, reports from school teachers in the district show that there were a number of cases of whooping cough; fortunately a mild type. Apart from this the district was remarkably free from infectious diseases.

III. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The immunisation campaign continued throughout the year. A number of schools were revisited and, thanks to the co-operation of the teachers, a report was obtained from each school of the number of children not immunised; and the number whose parents had given consent for immunisation to be carried out. Again the response for children between 5 and 15 years of age was good; but that for children under school age left room for improvement, though parents were notified and encouraged to bring them up to the school.

By the end of December 1942 the number completely immunised was as follows:-

Under 5 years of age	190
Between 5 and 15 years of age	1160
Total	<u>1350</u>

These figures include those children living in the Rural District who attend schools in the Borough, and those children under school age who were immunised at the Infant Welfare Clinic.

It is difficult to give an accurate estimate of the number of evacuees included in these figures as many of the addresses given were those of the foster parents; and by the end of 1942 many had left the district, some being over 15 years of age, and therefore not included.

IV. TUBERCULOSIS.

Total number of cases notified during the year	15 (including 4 at Mental Hospital)
Number of Pulmonary cases	11
" " Non-pulmonary cases	4
" " deaths from Tuberculosis	9 (All pulmonary)

Of the above deaths five were persons resident in the rural district, the remaining four being patients at the Mental Hospital.

V. GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

On December 31st 1942 there were, in the Rural area, 162 unaccompanied children, 42 accompanied children and 23 mothers. A number of the unaccompanied children attained school leaving age during the year and left the district to start work in their home towns or elsewhere.

The general health of the evacuated children has been good. Probably the incidence of scabies and impetigo has been no greater among them than among the children resident in the area. The opening of Rotherleigh Sick Bay in Abergavenny (to take evacuated and other children from this part of the country) has provided a great asset in treating scabies and impetigo; and has shortened the treatment and time of absence from school very considerably.

VI. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(a) Housing.

Owing to wartime restrictions the figures relating to housing are much the same as last year.

Number of houses owned by Local Authority	
" " " on 31st Dec. 1942	70
" " " in course of erection	Nil
" " " erected in 1942	
By Local Authority	Nil
By Private Enterprise	Nil
Number of houses for which sanction had been given, but which had not been commenced owing to wartime restrictions	38
Number of houses inspected for defects	43
Number of houses repaired as a result of informal action by Local Authority or its officers	3

Number of houses in respect of which statutory notices were served to carry out repairs 6

(b) WATER SUPPLY

Llanvihangel Water Supply.

From August to October 1942 the Borough supply was augmented from this source; the total amount supplied during that period being 3 million 228 thousand gallons.

Bettws Newydd Supply.

In August work was started on this supply. Excavation was carried out to collect all the water available at the source; and the water conveyed by a 4" galvanized pipe to the 1000 gallon storage tank in the village; a distance of 450 yards. Renovations were carried out to the Memorial Fountain and storage tanks.

Govilon.

The Tilla water supply was thoroughly overhauled; the pipes being uncovered and new pipes put in where necessary and defective joints made good.

Llanellen.

The well on the common was thoroughly cleaned out and the trench taking the overflow was excavated to a greater depth.

A number of minor repairs in connection with various other water supplies have been carried out, and ten samples of water were taken for analysis.

(c) MILK SUPPLY.

Examination of dairies and cowsheds was carried out, and twenty samples of milk submitted for analysis. A sample of Grade "A" T.T. milk from Coldbrook Home Farm was analysed each month.

(d) MEAT INSPECTION.

Slaughtering of animals is carried out at the Abergavenny Abattoir, therefore, no inspection of carcasses now takes place in the Rural Area.

(e) REFUSE COLLECTION.

The only extension in refuse collection was the inclusion of the Hardwick-Coldbrook district in the weekly collection instead of monthly.

VII. SALVAGE OF WASTE.

In accordance with the circular of the Ministry of Supply a schedule of all unnecessary railings in the district was prepared and the total tonnage amounted to approximately 62 tons 12 cwt.

The amount of salvage collected during the year amounted to:-

Metal	23 tons
Waste Paper	22½ tons
Rubber	8½ tons
Bones	5 cwt.
Rags	1½ tons

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Aluminium 1/2 cwt
Brass 1/2 cwt

I am,

Yours faithfully,

Olive G. Griffiths,
R.O.H.

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