

[Report 1965] / Medical Officer of Health, Abergavenny R.D.C.

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Abergavenny (Wales). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1965

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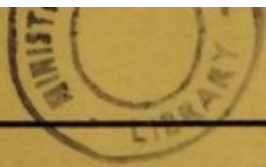
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BSX 1/9

Annual Report

UPON THE

Public Health

AND

Sanitary Administration

OF THE

Rural District of Abergavenny

FOR THE

Year 1965



S. M. R. JAMES, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

Medical Officer of Health No. 10 Area

ANNUAL REPORT

1965

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

There are over a thousand elderly people living in the Rural District of Abergavenny today, i.e. men and women over the present pension age of 65 and 60 years respectively. The number has more or less doubled in the last half century and it is reasonable to expect that the present upward trend will continue over the next twenty years. This remarkable shift in the age pattern of our population, both locally and nationally presents new problems to those interested in the health and welfare of the community.

Many of the pensioners enjoy better health than their predecessors due to advances in medical science and improved environment both social and physical. Increasing numbers have spent less hours at strenuous work than did their forefathers and therefore potentially more active. Fortunately, some of them are adequately housed and able to look after themselves on retirement. Others can do so with help from the family or various local authority and/or voluntary services. On the other hand, many of them are living in accommodation that has become unsuited to their needs for one reason or another. Although residential homes for the aged will certainly be needed for as long as we can see and probably for increasing numbers, the great majority of the elderly will continue to live in their own homes. This Council appreciates the need to help old people to do so, the emphasis having changed from institutional to community care.

By 1965 a number of pensioners had already enjoyed several years in council built bungalows at The Bryn, Govilon and Llanfoist. Then during this last year, considerable thought was given to the planning and building of further accommodation for the elderly throughout the District.

Mardy—14 O.A.P. Bungalows started and almost completed in the year.

Govilon—12 O.A.P. Bungalows (four of which were completed in 1965). 3 others proposed at Carpenters Row.

Great Oak—6 O.A.P. Bungalows proposed, work to start in 1966.

Llanfoist—12 O.A.P. Bungalows, work to start in 1966.

The Bryn—12 O.A.P. Bungalows under construction.

Grosmont—6 O.A.P. Bungalows proposed.

At the same time a few of the older houses in the district have been gradually adapted to suit particular needs.

There will be a growing need for special accommodation for the elderly, because as we know only too well, old age does not come alone. For instance, the metabolism of the body in old age will not allow any drastic drop in temperature, hence the need for an adequate even temperature in all rooms—the poor climate in a British bathroom is a common experience! We also know that the elderly cannot accommodate to sudden changes in illumination, hence the need for full lighting, especially where there are stairs and staircases. Window height is very important particularly for the disabled and housebound. The elderly are accident prone therefore flooring deserves careful consideration and whatever material is chosen, it should be non-slip. Similarly, toilets and baths should be provided with hand-rails and preferably baths should not be more than 5 feet in length. Cupboards should be accessible in height and depth. In other words housing, particularly for the aged demands a preventive rather than a ‘casualty’ approach if the problems and difficulties too often experienced by the elderly are to be overcome.

The infectious diseases which were responsible for the great proportion of deaths in the past have yielded place in mortality tables to the diseases associated with later age groups. More and more old people die each year from circulatory diseases and cancer of all types. Other disabilities tend to increase with advancing years. Vision begins to fail, until after sixty, only about one in twenty people can read without glasses. Hearing becomes less acute. Giddiness is common and a large majority of falls occurs after the age of sixty-five years. While many of these conditions cannot be wholly prevented, their onset can be delayed. Periodic medical examinations at geriatric clinics could and would contribute greatly towards a healthy and happy retirement. We all know that infant welfare clinics have played an appreciable part in improving the health and well-being of the young so it is reasonable to expect similar positive results in the promotion of a healthy old age. We are also increasingly aware of the problems associated with leisure. In the past, people either worked until they dropped dead or were overcome by chronic ill-health. Today, more and more are forced to retire at a fixed age. At the same time, their working days have gradually become shorter and their leisure time longer. Unfortunately, most people are as yet ill-prepared for this increase in leisure time. How many of us are dependent on mass media for our sole means of entertainment? The proper use of leisure could profitably be included in the health education programme of a geriatric clinic.

The Council continues to devote much time and energy in consideration, discussing and planning for the needs of the population in general. In 1965 it was decided to have—

- 4 more houses at Llanvapley.
- 26 more houses at Mardy.

- 21 more houses at Govilon.
- 6 houses for Sale at Llanellen.
- 11 more houses at Great Oak.
- 10 more houses at Glanhonddu.
- 4 agricultural houses at Llangattock Lingoed.

It is believed that these will provide homes for most of those on our housing waiting list. particularly families still living in slum properties and those in overcrowded conditions as well as for the aged. Many of them will live in decent, modern homes complete with baths, etc., possibly for the first time in their lives.

When the houses are built it is necessary to plan and provide ancillary but nevertheless equally essential services. There must be an available supply of pure and wholesome water not only to meet the demands of new housing but also those of local industries as well as our modern way of life. Being a rural district there is little industry to increase the demand. Both the quantity and the quality of our water supplies continue to give rise to anxiety at odd times. As 1965 was a comparatively wet year, the supply was sufficient to meet the demand. The quality, however, was not consistently good, as some of the laboratory reports on the regular and frequent samples show. In any rural district there are many private water supplies, these are also sampled and investigated at intervals and any adverse reports submitted to the owners.

There must also be a satisfactory means of sewage disposal. The Council has constructed sewage disposal plants (septic tanks with filter beds) in the larger villages. Unfortunately, their maintenance has occasionally proved very difficult and they do not always function satisfactorily as the sewage effluents sometimes show. There are plans to overcome their faulty operation and it is hoped they will be successful.

Refuse disposal is another service which presents its own problems. It is often difficult to obtain suitable tipping ground. Controlled tipping is advised but not always observed. One of the tips has been prone to internal combustion. The rodent population is kept to a minimum but it has not always been possible to exclude wandering farm animals.

These and other services, provided by the local authority and operated by its officials, form an essential part of our physical environment. Whatever the pattern of disease, a good physical environment will always be conducive to optimum health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	..	..	..	62,685
Population (Estimated)	..	..	..	9,160
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	..	..	2,736
(According to Rate Book, 31/12/64)				
Rateable Value	..	..	..	£164,887
1d. Rate	..	..	..	£650

1965	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Total</i>
LIVE BIRTHS :			
Legitimate	87	75	162
Illegitimate	2	3	5
	—	—	—
	89	78	167

LIVE BIRTH RATE	<i>Rural District</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>E. & W.</i>
Per 1,000 population	18.23	18.68	18.0
Comparability Factor—1.2			
Adjusted Live Birth Rate—18.23 x 1.2—21.87 <i>County</i> 19.05.			

STILL BIRTHS	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	0	1	1
	—	—	—
Total	4	3	7

STILL BIRTH RATE	<i>Rural District</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>E. & W.</i>
Per 1,000 Live and Still Births	40.2	22.5	15.7
Per 1,000 population	0.76	0.4	

DEATHS	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
All causes	88	72	160

	<i>Rural District</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>E. & W.</i>
Death Rate per 1,000 population	17.5	10.9	11.5
Comparability Factor—0.51			
Adjusted Death Rate—17.5 x 0.51 – 8.93. <i>County</i> 12.31			

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Death from Cancer (all forms)	13	10	23
Death from Lung Cancer	4	1	5

Deaths due to Pregnancy, Child
Deaths due to Pregnancy, Child Birth and Abortion—Nil.

MATERNAL DEATH RATE	<i>Rural District</i>	<i>County</i>	
(Rate per 1,000 Live Births)	0	0.59	

INFANT MORTALITY			
<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Age</i>
Virus Pneumonia	1		1 hour
Prematurity		1	1 day
	1	1	
Infant Mortality Rate (Rate per 1,000 total Live Births)	<i>Rural District</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>E. & W.</i>
	11.98	21.21	19.0
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate—first 4 weeks	11.98	14.39	
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Under 1 week)	11.98	12.27	
Perinatal Mortality (Still Births and Infant under 1 week) per 1,000 total live and still births		51.7	35.98

PERINATAL MORTALITY IN ABERGAVENNY RURAL DISTRICT
(1959 - 1965)

YEAR	NUMBER OF FIRST WEEK DEATHS	NUMBER OF STILL BIRTHS	PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE
1965	2	7	51.7
1964	2	2	28.
1963	—	—	—
1962	4	1	42.55
1961	2	1	28.99
1960	1	7	56.7
1959	2	2	32.0

PERINATAL MORTALITY (1959-1965)

Abergavenny Borough, Abergavenny Rural District and Monmouthshire County.

YEAR	ABERGAVENTNY BOROUGH	ABERGAVENTNY RURAL DISTRICT	MONMOUTHSHIRE
1965	31.25	51.7	35.98
1964	57.8	28.6	37.25
1963	30.6	—	35.82
1962	71.4	42.55	38.85
1961	46.1	28.99	39.9
1960	51.3	56.7	42.0
1959	23.9	32.0	47.7

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1965.

Cause	Sex :	Sex :	
		Male	Female
Tuberculosis	1	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung and Bronchus	..	4	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	—	5
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	..	7	2
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1
Diabetes	—	1
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	10	7
Coronary Disease, Angina	13	8
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	2
Other Heart Diseases	10	18
Other Circulatory Disease	6	2
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	21	10
Bronchitis	2	2
Other Disease of Respiratory System	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	0	0
Nephritis and Nephrosis	0	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	0	—
Congenital Malformations	0	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	6
Accidents (Motor Vehicle)	2	—
Suicide	2	—
All other Accidents	0	1
		—	—
Total	88	72

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (1965)

(Classified according to sex and age)

Disease	Sex	0-4	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40 plus	Total
Whooping Cough	M	0	—	—	—	—	—	0
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	M	0	3	1	—	—	—	4
	F	1	3	—	—	—	—	4
Scarlet Fever	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	M	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abortus Fever	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

Notified : Pulmonary M 1 F 0 Non-Pulmonary M 1 F 0
 Deaths : Pulmonary M 1 F 0 Non-Pulmonary M 0 F 0

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALL POX

Numbers Vaccinated

Age Groups	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Under 1 year ..	25	22	47	44	46	37	60	50	40	4	1	1
1—4 years ..	2	7	35	12	6	18	13	40	158	7	31	31
5—14 years ..	1	4	1	6	5	9	0	8	667	3	1	1
15 years plus ..	8	3	12	28	14	8	2	4	1453	1	—	—
Total ..	36	36	95	90	71	72	75	102	2318	15	33	35

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

Numbers Immunised

Age Groups	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Under 5 years	141	77	112	39 Dip. 54 Whc	70 Dip. 80 Whc	137 Dip. 114 Whc 128 Tet.	88 Dip. 80 Whc 85 Tet.	83 Dip. 84 Whc 90 Tet.	99 Dip. 88 Whc 89 Tet.	119 Dip. 118 Whc 107 Tet.
5—14 yrs.	58	5	205	3 Dip. 0 Whc	48 Dip. 4 Whc	8 Dip. 1 Whc 7 Tet.	3 Dip. 0 Whc 1 Tet.	5 Dip. 0 Whc 7 Tet.	7 Dip. 4 Whc 3 Tet.	13 Dip. 10 Whc 19 Tet.
Totals	199	82	317	42 Dip. 54 Whc	118 Dip. 84 Whc	145 Dip. 115 Whc 135 Tet.	91 Dip. 80 Whc 86 Tet.	88 Dip. 84 Whc 97 Tet.	106 Dip. 92 Whc 10 Tet.	132 Dip. 125 Whc 126 Tet.

In addition to the above, 133 children were given "Booster" diphtheria prophylactic injections 103, "Booster" Whooping Cough injections and 126 "Booster" Tetanus injections.

Yours faithfully,

S. M. JAMES, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

ABERGAVENNY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman & Members of the Abergavenny Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to submit my Annual Report on the work carried out by this department during the year ended 31st December. 1965.

The work I am reporting on was carried out during the first full year of my appointment and I have pleasure in stating that satisfactory progress was made during the year in all the various duties of the department, detailed reports of which are contained under the various headings included in this report.

Despite the different trends in public health, the change of accent on duties, and the sophistication of the appointment, the Public Health Inspector remains an "Inspector" and by implication must spend the bulk of his time out and about the district inspecting in one way or another. It would be impossible for him to have the necessary influence on the environmental health of a population of 9,000 spread over an area of 62,000 acres if he never left his office. It follows, I would think, that the efficiency of his department is proportionate to the amount of time spent by him on the district. I am naturally concerned, therefore, as indeed most Public Health Inspectors are at the tendency to become chair bound due to the ever increasing amount of paperwork that has to be dealt with. If full advantage is to be taken of the training and ability of the Public Health Officer, then his activities in the field must be backed up by a sufficient and efficient office administration. If this is not done, he will shuffle about in inefficiency and professional dissatisfaction.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their confidence and support and also the Clerk and other colleagues for their valuable help and assistance.

I am,

Yours Respectfully,

T. GREGORY,

Public Health Inspector.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Licences, containing conditions, were issued in respect of two premises and these are found generally to be satisfactory. In total 50 dogs and 3 cats are catered for.

CARAVAN SITES

27 site licences were issued in conjunction with temporary planning consents in respect of residential caravan sites, containing one caravan. A further four sites are permanently licenced for six months of the year for holiday caravans. These sites contain 4, 5, 15 and 25 caravans respectively.

The site at Llangattock House is licensed for five holiday caravans by the Caravan Club.

Conditions generally on these licensed sites are good.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

A total of 18 premises were registered as factories during the year, plus 10 building sites and works of engineering construction which ranked as factories. In all cases these were factories in which only Section 7 of the Act is enforced by the Local Authority.

ACTION TAKEN.

No written notices were served in respect of defective or insufficient sanitary conveniences, but in 3 cases defective sanitary conveniences were remedied as a result of informal action, and in 2 cases sanitary conveniences were made to be provided on building sites.

OUTWORKERS.

14 persons were notified as outworkers, these being engaged in knitted woollens and dressmaking.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT 1961.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Insp- ections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	nil	nil	nil	nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	18	14	nil	nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-works' premises) ...	12	10	nil	nil
Total ...	30	24	nil	nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Overcrowding (S. 2)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	nil	nil	nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	nil	nil	nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Total	5	5	ni	nil	nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel	Making, etc.	14	nil	nil	nil	nil
	cleaning and	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
	Washing	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

UNSOOUND FOOD.

No unfit food was condemned during the year and no unsound food was voluntarily surrendered.

Four complaints, one each in respect of a piece of cloth in a loaf of bread, and a mouldy loaf of bread, and two in respect of dirty milk bottles were received during the year. Warnings were given in lieu of legal proceedings in three cases, and in the fourth case, a dirty milk bottle, a successful prosecution was taken by the authority in whose area the milk was bottled.

FOOD HYGIENE.

Visits of Inspection :

	No. of Premises	No. of Visits	No. of warnings verbal & written	No. of Infringements
Grocers	28	46	34	52
Other Food Premises	3	5	1	3
Ice-Cream Premises	34	58	—	—
Cafes	2	7	2	20
Street Vendors	12	30	9	34
Licensed Clubs	3	2	—	—
Licensed Premises	34	61	42	225
	116	209	88	334

	Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 wash hand basins, etc.	Premises to which Reg. 19 applies (sinks, etc.)	Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19 (Sinks, etc.)
Grocers	28	28	28
Ice-Cream Premises	34	nil	nil
Cafes	2	2	2
Licensed Clubs	1	2	2
Licensed Premises	19	34	34
Other Food Premises	3	3	3

Food Hygiene (continued)

No legal action was taken during the year in respect of infringements of the Hygiene Regulations. Most of the warnings given in respect of grocers premises concerned minor infringements. In the case of licensed premises the large number of warnings given, result in part from warnings being given to both the brewery companies and the tenants.

The unsatisfactory state of affairs connected with the provision of wash hand basin facilities in licensed premises results from past policy of accepting as suitable, arrangements which are really unsuitable, re : cases where the only available wash hand basin is sited in the bathroom which is not conveniently accessible to the bar. Action is now being taken in the appropriate cases.

ICE-CREAM (Heat Treatment) REGULATIONS 1947 AND 1952.

There are no premises registered in the area for the manufacture of ice-cream. The 34 registered premises sell pre-packed ice-cream. Two of the street traders sell loose ice-cream, which is manufactured outside the district, and one street trader sells soft ice-cream frozen on the vehicle. No samples were submitted for bacteriological or chemical analysis.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES (General) REGULATIONS, 1959.

There is only one producer/distributor in the area and his dairy is controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

No milk samples were submitted for bacteriological or chemical analysis during the year.

HOUSING

I. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (Public Health Act and Housing Act) ..	143
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	215
(2) Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	5

II. Action under the Statutory Powers

Proceedings taken under Sections 9 to 16,
Housing Act, 1957

- (a) Number of houses in respect of which notices

Housing (continued)

	were served requiring repairs	..	NIL
(b)	Number of unfit houses made fit as a result of informal action	..	NIL
(c)	Number of Closing Orders made	..	1
(d)	Number of Demolition Orders made	..	NIL
(e)	Number of unfit houses demolished	..	NIL
(f)	Number of unfit houses on which undertakings were accepted	..	4
(g)	Number of unfit houses subject to change of use..		9

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

(1) Standard Grants :

(a)	Number of applications received during the year	..	17
(b)	Number of applications approved during the year	..	16
(c)	Number of applications withdrawn during the year	..	NIL
(d)	Expenditure ranking for grants approved during the year	£3,240	0 0
(e)	Number of cases in which work was completed		11
(f)	Expenditure paid out on work completed during the year	£1,556	18 7

(2) Discretionary Grants :

(a)	Number of applications received during the year	..	8
(b)	Number of applications approved during the year	..	8
(c)	Number of applications withdrawn during the year	..	NIL
(d)	Expenditure ranking for grants approved during the year	£3,200	0 0
(e)	Number of cases where work was completed during the year	..	2
(f)	Expenditure aid out on work completed during the year	£751	0 0

It is often necessary to meet owners and builders to discuss proposals in respect of which, because of various difficulties involved, no formal application is ever submitted.

Although the interest shown in grant aid for works of improvement is steady over the years, it is nevertheless relatively slow. There would appear to be large scope for improvement in the cottage type of property of which there is so much in this district. More effective forms of propaganda and publicity could be considered in order to stimulate interest in improvement work, also the creation of "improvement areas" for which purpose surveys are at present being carried out, but the limiting factor on the amount of improvement actually carried out, is the capacity and efficiency of the local building industry. Could it cope with a sudden demand for works of alteration and improvement? The recent ease of a grant being finalised three years after the work was given out is not unusual.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Class of Premises	Number of Premises		
	Registered during year	Total Registered at end of year	Receiving a general Inspection during the year
Offices		2	2
Retail Shops		5	5
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses		1	1
Catering Establishments open to the Public & Canteens	2	9	9
Fuel Storage Depots			
Total Number of Visits to Registered Premises			31

No great difficulties have been experienced in implementing this new Act and co-operation from the owners concerned has been good.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Most of the activities of this department covered by the Public Health Act, 1936, have sufficient content to be dealt with in detail under separate headings and indeed follow in this report.

NUISANCES.

Very few complaints were received during the year involving Statutory Nuisances, and these were settled without resorting to formal action.

RODENT CONTROL AND OTHER DISINFESTATION

This work, in respect of Council property and dwelling houses, is carried out by a Private Contractor under contract, but in order to give a more complete picture of rodent control work in the district, I have included a summary of the contractor's work in connection with business and agricultural premises.

	Type of Property				(5) Agri- cultural
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses including Council Houses	(3) All other including Business Premises	(4) Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	
1. No. of properties in Local Authority's district	17	2170	319	2506	540
2. No. of properties inspected as a result of notification		101	2	103	
No. of such properties found to be infested by :—					
Common Rat Major					
Minor		89	2	91	
House Mouse Major					
Minor		5		5	
3. No. of Properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	17	314		331	165
No. of such properties found to be infested by :—					
Common Rat Major					
Minor	17	158		175	166
House Mouse Major					
Minor		8		8	16
4. Total No. of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)		70	117	187	29

Rodent Control and Other Disinfestation (continued)

No. of such properties found to be infested by :—	Common Rat	Major			
		Minor	2	1	3
House Mouse	Major				
	Minor			3	3
5. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections (to be completed only if figures are readily available)	109	752	126	987	631
6. No. of infested Properties (in sections II, III and IV)	17	267			
7. Total No. of treatments carried out including re-treatments	106	267	6	379	165

TREATMENT OF RATS IN SEWERS

District or System Treated	Total No. of Districts	Total No. of Manholes	Manholes Treated	No. of Manholes showing Take of bait
All Systems	14	210	64	4

Although the spreading to or the development within this district of a strain of warfarin, resistant rats is always a real danger, I am happy to report that there is no evidence of warfarin resistant rats in this district. There persists, however, the need to be constantly watchful for any such evidence.

Rat activity in the sewers remains at a very low level.

OTHER DISINFESTATION.

During the year a group of four houses were treated for cockroach infestation. The houses in the district remain substantially free from insect infestation.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Most of the rural district is covered by the Council's collection scheme, which is now under the control of the Public Health Inspector.

The collection is a kerbside one which is carried out weekly in the urbanised part of the district, and fortnightly to monthly in the outlying parts of the rural area. The scheme remained basically unchanged throughout the year although in the case of one village the frequency of the collection was increased from monthly to fortnightly.

The Council have their main refuse tip at Llanvihangel Crucorney and a second small tip was established this year in the Plough area. Disposal is by means of a semi-controlled system. Negotiations are proceeding for the aquisition of a large tip site in the Govilon area.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Most of the populated parts of the district are sewered, 1,227 houses being connected to a main sewer. The remaining properties in the area, being farms and isolated cottages and hamlets, are served by septic tanks, earth and chemical closets. It is estimated that there are upwards of 1,000 septic tanks in the area, including 430 receiving farm drainage. These figures are not likely to be substantially reduced in the future and represent a residual of properties which it is not possible to put on main drainage. Future action in this direction will be in the nature of protecting streams from pollution and improving the size, construction and means of drainage of the older types of tanks.

In the cases of Pandy, Llanddewi Rhydderch, Llanover, Llanarth, Bryn, Llanvair Kilgeddin, Great Oak and Mardy the means of disposal is through traditional sewage disposal works. On small Council housing sites septic tanks and tipper filters are used.

Govilon is connected to the sewage works owned by and situated within the area of the Crickhowell Rural District Council. Llanfoist is connected to the Abergavenny Borough sewage works.

Sludge removal and disposal from the sewage works is by tanker vehicle under private contract arrangements.

Two men are now employed full-time on the maintenance of the sewage works, and a vehicle for the use of the maintenance staff has been purchased.

This year saw the coming into operation of the Great Oak sewage disposal works, designed to serve 29 houses. Work on the sewerage and sewage disposal schemes at Grosmont and Llanellen is under way and this should be completed during the coming year. A further scheme for the improvements of the sewerage and disposal systems at Llanover is being prepared and consideration is being given to providing new sewerage scheme for Brynygwenin, in the Llantilio Pertholey parish and to extending the Pandy sewer to Llanvihangel Crucorney.

DETAILS OF HOUSES CONNECTED TO A MAIN SEWER

PARISH	WARD	No. of Houses	No. of Houses connected to a main sewer	
Abergavenny Rural		70	8	
Llanddewi Skirrid		34		
Crucorney Fawr	Llanvihangel			Main sewer extension proposed
	Crucorney	202	51	
	Oldcastle	9		
	Bwlch Trewyn	24		
	Lower Cwmyoy	45	8	
	Upper Cwmyoy	34		
	Fwthog	12		
Llantilio Pertholey	Mardy	414	300*	Proposed being considered for a new sewerage scheme at Brynygwenin
	Fforest	47		
	Llwynu	116	116	
Llanarth Fawr	Llanarth	63	24	New sewage disposal works at Great Oak. Consideration has been given to enlarging the Llanvapley works.
	Clytha	65		
	Bryngwyn	75	19	
	Llanvapley	41	8	
	Bettws Newydd	22		
Llanover Fawr	Llanover	119	75	Proposals well advanced for enlarging the Llanover Works.
	Llanvihangel-nigh-Usk	38		
	Llangattock-nigh-Usk	104	39	
	Llansantffraed	2		
	Llanvair Kilgeddin	81	15	
	Llanddewi			
	Rhydderch	93	17	
Llanfoist Fawr	Llanfoist	241	200*	Enlarged scheme under construction at Llanellen.
	Llanellen	103	24	
	Llanwenarth Citra	86	8	
	Llanwenarth Ultra	364	300*	
	Pwlldu	2		
Grosmont Fawr	Grosmont	135	11	Enlarged scheme under construction at Grosmont.
	Llangua	23		
	Llangattock			
	Lingoed	36		
	Llanvetherine	37	4	
		2736	1227	

* Approximate figures

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

There are no licensed slaughter houses in the Rural District. One licensed slaughterman resides within the area.

WATER SUPPLIES

The Council's own supplies for the Rural District are at Llanover, Tyn-y-wern and Grosmont ; a large proportion of the district is supplied from these three sources. The source of supply in all cases is a spring and the water is chlorinated but not filtered before being distributed.

The chlorinating apparatus at Llanover and Tyn-y-wern is of the chlorine gas type, manually controlled and at Grosmont a liquid chlorine drip feed is used. The chlorine dose is set in conjunction with a residual chlorine test which in the case of Llanover and Tyn-y-wern is carried out daily and at Grosmont three times per week.

The supply to the Govilon area is supplemented by water from the Abertillery and District Water Board and the Newport and South Monmouthshire Water Board ; the latter board also supplements the Llanover supply and the Abertillery and District Water Board supply water to the Fforest area. The supply to the Llwynu housing estate is from the Abergavenny Borough mains.

The new main to Pen-y-val, from the Newport and South Monmouthshire Water Board main at Llanellen, was installed this year and a scheme to continue this main through to the Rural District of Monmouth is awaiting Ministry approval. This new main will serve rural areas at present without a main supply.

During the year the following samples were taken for bacteriological examination :—

Source	Raw Water		Treated Water	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfact'y	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Water Supplies	0	0	48	15
Wells & Springs	8	16	0	0

There is a marked seasonal variation in the bacteriological quality of the water from the springs used for the Councils main supplies. This has been demonstrated during periods of heavy rain, especially after a dry spell, and during and after the melting of snow. The

Water Supplies (continued)

PARISH	No. of Houses	Pop.	WARD	No. of Houses	Pop.	Water Supply by Public Water mains			
						Direct to Houses		By means stand pip	
						Nc. of Houses	Pop.	No. of Houses	Pop.
Abergavenny Rural	70	1268		70	1268	29	1120		New main now available
Llanddewi Skirrid	34	100		34	100	12	36		
Crucorney Fawr	328	848	Llanvihangel	202	525	129	335		
			Oldcastle	9	23				
			Bwlch Trewyn	24	63	12	32		
			Lower Cwmyoy	45	117				
			Upper Cwmyoy	34	89				
Fwthog	12	31							
Llantilio Pertholey	577	1835	Mardy	414	1317	414	1317	3	
			Fforest	47	149	7	23		
			Llwynu	116	369	116	369		
Llanarth Fawr	265	825	Llanarth	63	195	49	152	1	
			Clytha	64	202	42	130		
			Bryngwyn	75	233	53	164		
			Llanvapley	41	127	30	93		
			Bettws Newydd	22	68	16	50		
Llanover Fawr	437	1281	Llanover	119	350	103	299		
			Llanvihangel-nigh-Usk	38	110	32	93		
			Llangattock-nigh-Usk	104	305	88	255		
			Llansantffraed	2	6	2	6		
			Llanvair Kilgeddin	81	238	67	195		
			Llanddewi Rhydderch	93	272	78	226		
Llanfoist Fawr	796	2323	Llanfoist	241	704	218	632	1	
			Llanellen	103	300	74	215		
			Llanwenarth Citra	86	249	69	210		
			Llanwenarth Ultra	364	1062	320	928		
			Pwlldu	2	8	2	8		
Grosmont Fawr	231	680	Grosmont	135	397	73	219		
			Llangua	23	68				
			Llangattock	36	106	19	57		
			Lingoed						
			Llanvetherine							37	109
Totals	2736	9160		2736	9160	20547	164	8	

Water Supplies (continued)

PARISH	No. of Houses	Pop.	WARD	No. of Houses	Pop.	Water Supply by Public Water works			
						Direct to Houses		By means of street pipes	
						No. of Houses	Pop.	No. of Houses	Pop.
Abergavenny Rural	70	1268		70	1268	29	1423	New water now available	
Llondrewi Skirid	34	100		34	100	14	36		
Circorney Fawr	328	848	Llanvihangel	202	825	129	305		
			Oldcastle	9	23				
			Bwlch Town	24	61				
			Lower Cwmwy	45	117	12	32		
			Upper Cwmwy Fawr	34	89				
Llanillo Pabwy	537	1832	Wardy	414	1347	414	1317	3	
			Placiat	17	149	7	23		
			Llwyau	115	369	115	369		
Llanarth Fawr	260	825	Llanarth	83	198	49	152		
			Clytha	64	202	42	130		
			Berngwyn	75	233	53	164		
			Llanvopley	41	127	30	95	1	
			Betws Newydd	22	68	16	50		
Llanover Fawr	497	1381	Llanover	119	350	103	299		
			Llanvihangel-ngh-Uk	50	130	50	93		
			Llangattock-ngh-Uk	104	305	88	255		
			Llantriffed	2	6	2	6		
			Llanvair Kilgeddin	81	238	67	195		
			Llanidreth Rhyddarth	93	272	78	226		
Llanistol Fawr	736	2323	Llanistol	241	704	218	632		
			Llanallen	103	300	74	215	1	
			Llanecwirth Cwta	86	248	62	210		
			Llanwernach Uffra	164	1952	120	921	3	
			Pellida	2	8	2	3		
Grosmont Fawr	231	680	Grosmont	135	397	73	219		
			Llangos	21	68				
			Llangattock Llangos	38	106				
			Llanverchime	27	109	19	57		
Totals	2736	9193		2736	9193	2097	194	32	

