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A N N U A L     R E P O R T  
UPON    THE  
P U B L I C    H E A L T H  
AND  
S A N I T A R Y    A D M I N I S T R A T I O N  
OF THE  
RURAL        DISTRICT        OF        ABERGAVENNY  
FOR    THE  
Y E A R    1 9 6 6

\*



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

W. H. A. F. C. E. T.

FROM THE

PUBLIC HEALTH

AND

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

RURAL DISTRICT OF ABERDEENSHIRE

FOR THE

YEAR 1886



A. H. A. F. C. E. T. W. H. A. F. C. E. T.

Medical Officer of Health

and

Medical Officer of Health



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## ANNUAL REPORT

1966

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Is there a need for public health services and preventive medicine today? To all thinking people the answer to this question is obviously - yes, and not only for financial reasons, important though these may be. It is clear from the number of articles in newspapers and journals, and from various interviews on radio and television that there is an official and a popular demand for greater emphasis on the maintenance of good health.

Recent scientific investigation has shown that the existence of disease is like an iceberg. The amount of known illness can be represented by the small exposed portion of the iceberg while the undetected and untreated sickness forms the vast submerged area. It is of prime importance to reveal this unknown or incipient illness in the community. With earlier detection there may be a much better chance of successful treatment. Obviously, it is essential to secure the re-orientation of the National Health Service towards discovering a person's medical needs and away from the existing "care on demand" by the patient. It is true that modern medicine is gradually becoming increasingly concerned with patients who have not yet developed symptoms but much more needs to be done.

In many cases it is only through early diagnosis and appropriate treatment that we can hope for either complete success or a partial cure with a delay in the advance of disease and a reduction in later handicaps. Early detection of disease by screening has grown up mainly in the public health field, first of all, in relation to communicable diseases such as Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Venereal diseases. As communicable disease has gradually declined in importance, attention now naturally turns to the increasing prevalence of non-communicable diseases such as Hearing defects, Diabetes, Cancer of the breast and cervix, Hypertensive disorders etc.



It has been estimated that one person in ten is suffering from some, as yet, undiagnosed condition. It is also said that there are more than two million untreated hypertensives and about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  million people with conspicuous psychiatric morbidity amongst the adult population of Britain. We are more and more aware of the tragedy of old people who fall into such a state of dependency that they have to be admitted, if lucky, to some institution from which they know too well that they will never emerge.

It seems obvious that health departments should now be more and more engaged in this preventive and diagnostic field with general practitioners and local authority workers functioning side by side. In recent years we have been able to see the excellent results of Infant Welfare Clinics in our bouncing bonny babies. We have poured so much orange juice, cod liver oil and welfare foods down the throats of infants that they have often been described as miniature Samsons. Of course, some mothers from the poorer homes, who are most in need of advice and help, are still seldom seen at any clinic. Fortunately, these are very much in the minority, but they necessitate repeated home visits from various public health officials and social workers. Immunisations and Vaccinations at our clinics have been so successful that we can now take heart in the knowledge that the control of acute infectious diseases is no longer a marathon task. However, we must not forget that the price of success is not only energy but eternal vigilance.

The school health service can also claim its share of the cake. We can now safely say that most children are sound in wind and limb. At the same time we must not minimise the importance of early ascertainment, treatment and continued care of the physically and mentally handicapped, the delicate and the maladjusted, even though their numbers may be comparatively small.

In view of these attainments and the obvious needs of other potentially ailing sections of the community, one suspects that we should now devote less time on healthy youngsters and more on early ascertainment and treatment of handicapped children and on a thorough medical examination of older people.



In view of these attainments and the obvious needs of other potentially ailing sections of the community, one suspects that we should now devote less time on healthy youngsters and more on early ascertainment and treatment of handicapped children and on a thorough medical examination of older people.

Monmouthshire is off to a good start. A chiropody clinic was established in Abergavenny in 1964 and now operates twice weekly at Leven House. Cytology clinics are also held periodically and their value can be appreciated by a glance at the statistics shown elsewhere in this report. Perhaps we should now provide facilities for the periodic medical examination of older groups of population. Having arrived at middle age, most people begin to realise that they are not immortal, and to think seriously about their health. Under prevailing circumstances, doctors may be too busy for such routine medical examinations but with some rearrangements and the provision of more health centres, the number of adult clinics could be increased and a closer liaison established between local authority staffs and family doctors. If people could be sure of getting a thorough medical check-up by previous appointment without having to wait unduly, I feel a large proportion of the community would, in time, respond. At the same time, the public could be educated to be sensibly, not morbidly, alert to the early symptoms of cancer, diabetes, heart disease as well as certain other conditions.



# VITAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	62,685
Population	9,410
Number of Inhabited Houses	
(According to Rate Book 31/12/65)	2,723
Rateable Value	£180,180
ld. Rate	711

<u>1966</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births:			
Legitimate	72	61	133
Illegitimate	3	3	6
	<u>75</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>139</u>

Live Birth Rate:	Rural District	County	E & W
Per 1,000 population	14.77	17.53	17.7

Comparability Factor 1.2			
Adjusted Live Birth Rate	14.77 x 1.2 = 17.7	County 17.7	

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Still Births:			
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total:	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>

Still Birth Rate:	Rural District	County	E & W
Per 1,000 Live and Still Births	22.97	2.003	15.4
Per 1,000 population	0.43	0.35	

DEATHS	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
All causes	93	76	169

	Rural District	County	E & W
Death Rate per 1,000 population	17.96	11.92	11.5

Comparability Factor 0.52			
Adjusted Death Rate	17.96 x 0.52 = 9.34	County 13.59	

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Death from Cancer			
(all forms)	8	7	15
Deaths from Lung Cancer	2	-	2

Deaths due to Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion - Nil

Maternal Death Rate	Rural District	County
(Rate per 1,000 Live Births)	0	0.47



	$\frac{M}{2}$	$\frac{F}{3}$	
Infant Mortality			
Infant Mortality Rate (Rate per 1,000 total Live Births)	Rural District 35.96	County 24.99	E. & W. 19.0
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate - first 4 weeks	28.78	16.06	12.9
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Under 1 week)	21.58	14.11	11.1
Perinatal Mortality (Still births and Infant under 1 week) per 1,000 total live and still births	48.95	33.87	26.3

Perinatal Mortality in Abergavenny Rural District (1959 - 1966)

Year	Number of First Week Deaths	Number of Still Births	Perinatal Mortality Rate
1966	3	4	48.95
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 (1959-1966)

Abergavenny Borough, Abergavenny Rural District and Monmouthshire  
County

YEAR	ABERGAVERNNEY BOROUGH	ABERGAVERNNEY RURAL DISTRICT	MONMOUTHSHIRE
1966	12.1	48.95	33.87
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, 1966

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Sex:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis		0	0
Syphilitic Disease		0	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases		0	0
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach		1	2
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung and Bronchus		2	0
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus		0	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast		0	0
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms		5	4
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia		1	0
Diabetes		0	0
Vascular Lesions of nervous system		11	14
Coronary Disease, Angina		13	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease		1	1
Other Heart Diseases		9	14
Other Coronary Diseases		1	2
Influenza		1	0
Pneumonia		26	12
Bronchitis		5	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory System		1	0
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum		0	0
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea		0	0
Nephritis and Nephrosis		0	0
Hyperplasia of Prostate		2	0
Congenital Malformations		0	0
Other defined and ill defined diseases		10	7
Accidents (Motor Vehicle)		1	0
Suicide		1	0
All other accidents		2	2
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		93	76
		<hr/>	<hr/>



# NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (1966)

(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	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	M	10	15	3	0	0	0	28
	F	12	11	2	0	0	0	25
Scarlet Fever	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abortus Fever	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## TUBERCULOSIS

Notified	Pulmonary	M 3	F 0	Non Pulmonary	M 0	F 11
Deaths	Pulmonary	M 0	F 0	Non Pulmonary	M 0	F 0



# VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

## Numbers Vaccinated

Age Groups	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Under 1 year	44	46	37	60	50	40	4	1	1	0
1 - 4 years	12	6	18	13	40	158	7	31	31	67
5 - 14 years	6	5	9	0	8	667	3	1	1	1
15 years plus	28	14	8	2	4	1453	1	0	0	6
Total:	90	71	72	75	102	2318	15	33	33	74

In addition there were 16 re-vaccinations against smallpox.

# IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS

## Numbers Immunised

Age Groups		1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Under 5 years	DIP	141	77	112	39	70	137	88	83	99	119	147
	WHC				54	80	114	80	84	88	118	147
	TET						128	85	90	89	107	150
5 - 14 years	DIP	58	5	205	3	48	8	3	5	7	13	9
	WHC					4	1	0	0	4	10	9
	TET						7	1	7	3	19	43
Totals	DIP	199	82	317	42	118	145	91	88	106	132	156
	WHC				54	84	115	80	84	92	128	156
	TET						135	86	97	92	126	193

In addition to the above, 85 children were given "Booster" diphtheria prophylactic injections, 85 "Booster" Whooping Cough injections and 138 "Booster" Tetanus injections.



# Cytology Statistics for 1966 (Monmouthshire)

Name of Clinics	Appts. sent		Appts. kept		No. of infect-ions	New cases only		Carc-in-Situ
	New cases	Re-calls	New cases	Re-calls		No. Ref'd to		
						Cynae-cologist	Other con-ditions	
Abergavenny	378	17	261	11	30	-	18	-
Abertillery	303	1	202	1	17	-	1	-
Blaina	276	17	161	0	22	1	16	-
Caldicot	172	4	118	3	6	-	3	-
Chepstow	319	21	233	12	22	1	9	-
Cwmbran	529	23	387	15	38	-	5	-
Croesyceiliog	402	26	291	19	29	3	11	-
Ebbw Vale	270	11	182	7	22	4	7	1
Monmouth	358	14	174	9	18	3	2	-
Newport	356	41	237	20	29	2	8	-
Pontypool	922	86	570	59	72	2	23	1
Pontllanfraith	1167	76	729	49	96	4	25	1
Risca	587	29	410	22	59	2	36	-
Tredegar	285	8	177	5	21	-	6	1
	6324	374	4132	240	481	22	170	4

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 R.D.C.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1966.

Despite the need to concentrate efforts on special aspects of the department's functions, satisfactory progress was made in connection with all the various duties of the department, detailed reports of which are contained, under the various headings, in this report.

Two basic public health functions, Refuse Collection and Disposal, and Sewage Disposal, can be singled out as having received special attention this year.

The inadequacy of the refuse collection scheme, made evident by several factors which have developed over the years, posed a number of problems, the solving of which or, at least, the investigations into the possible alternatives, consumed a considerable amount of time and energy out on the district, in the office and at Committee.

The difficulties experienced over the years in consistently producing satisfactory effluents from those sewage works that discharge into rivers and streams, likewise culminated this year in a concerted effort being made towards improving the poor state of affairs. This proved to be an involved technical exercise carried out entirely by this department.

Whilst these two aspects of the department's functions would not normally be so obtrusive, their prominence this year served well to remind us all of the importance, and the cost, of the efficient, hygienic and safe disposal of domestic waste.



In conclusion I would like to thank the Chairman and the Council for their confidence, support and encouragement 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 three premises and these are found generally to be satisfactory. In total 62 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 licensed 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 19 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 one case a defective



### Action Taken (continued)

sanitary convenience was remedied as a result of informal action, and in 3 cases sanitary conveniences were made to be provided on building sites.

### Outworkers

11 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 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	nil	nil	nil	nil
(ii) Factories not inclu- ded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	19	8	nil	nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority (excluding out-works premises)	17	9	nil	nil
Total:	36	17	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)	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	3	3	nil	nil	nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	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:	4	4	nil	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 un-wholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
)Making, )etc.	11	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Wearing)clean-apparel)ing and )washing	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

### Unsound Food

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

One complaint in respect of a piece of dirt in a loaf of bread was received during the year. A warning was given in lieu of legal proceedings in this case.



# Food Hygiene

## Visits of Inspection:

	No. of Premises	No. of Visits	No. of warnings verbal and written	No. of Infringements
Grocers	28	41	10	17
Other Food Premises	3	6	1	7
Ice-Cream Premises	34	53	-	-
Cafes	2	4	2	6
Street Vendors	15	9	4	10
Licensed Clubs	2	2	-	-
Licensed Premises	34	42	31	160
	118	157	48	200

	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	22	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 although a considerable number of written and verbal warnings were given.

Most of the warnings given in respect of grocers' premises concerned the provision and maintenance of suitable first aid material and the exhibiting of the hand washing warning notice in the sanitary convenience used by the food handlers. In most cases this convenience is situated in the bathroom of the house and invariably, great exception is taken to exhibiting this very important notice in such a position. I find it difficult to understand the attitude of indignation and horror expressed by the owners towards this requirement.

The installation of refrigerated display cabinets which are now to be seen in most village stores is a welcome development. However, the siting and method of installing the motor and working parts generally gives rise to concern. This equipment is usually fitted on the floor within a small space in the cabinet and is, from the start, a difficult and frightening object to keep clean; also the action of cooling sucks dust-laden air from floor level and then blows it about the shop. I have, in one case, succeeded in having the motor removed from the cabinet and suitably installed in another room.

Some of the work in connection with the improvement of licensed premises has been carried out this year after much discussion and correspondence with the owners and companies concerned and the bulk of the remaining items of work should be carried out in the next ensuing year.

Great difficulty has been experienced in getting all licensed premises provided with a wash hand basin in a position conveniently accessible to persons working in the bar. However, action towards this end is continuing. The attitude that a wash hand basin anywhere within the building will suffice still prevails in the face of all arguments against the provision of a facility nominated for a certain use which is never likely to be realised because of the relative situation of that facility to the proposed users.



## 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 & 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)                              | 127 |
| (b)     | Number of inspections made for the purpose ..   | 209 |
| (2)     | Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. | 17  |

### 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 were served requiring repairs .. | 2   |
| (b) | Number of unfit houses made fit as a result of informal action ..             | NIL |
| (c) | Number of Closing Orders made ..  | NIL |
| (d) | Number of Demolition Orders made ..   | NIL |
| (e) | Number of unfit houses demolished ..  | NIL |
| (f) | Number of unfit houses on which undertakings were accepted ..                 | 14  |
| (g) | Number of unfit houses subject to change of use ..                            | 3   |



## Improvement Grants

### (1) Standard Grants:

(a) Number of applications received during the year ...	15
(b) Number of applications approved during the year ...	15
(c) Number of applications withdrawn during the year ..	NIL
(d) Expenditure ranking for grants approved during the year ...	£2,270
(e) Number of cases in which work was completed ...	12
(f) Expenditure paid out on work completed during the year	£2,073. 13. 10.

### (2) Discretionary Grants:

(a) Number of applications received during the year ...	10
(b) Number of applications approved during the year ...	10
(c) Number of applications withdrawn during the year ..	NIL
(d) Expenditure ranking for grants approved during the year	£3,861. 0. 0.
(e) Number of cases where work was completed during the year	9
(f) Expenditure paid out on work completed during the year	£2,845. 10. 0.

The interest shown in grant-aided works of improvement remains very slow. The figures for applications received for work completed represent, in each case, much less than 1% of the total housing stock and in view of the general character of houses within this district, it is a cause for concern. A more pleasing situation would be a return of figures representing 3% especially as the bulk of improvements actually carried out is grant-aided.



# 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	-
Catering Establishments open to the Public and Canteens		9	9

Total Number of Visits to Registered Premises: 39

No great difficulties have been experienced in implementing this still comparatively new Act and co-operation from the owners 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 their separate headings.

### 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 the contractor's work in connection with business and agricultural premises.

There was a substantial increase in complaints of rat infestation during the last half of the year compared with recent years, and the treatment of non-agricultural properties was up by 50%. However, there was no evidence of this being due to warfarin resistance in rats.

Rat activity in sewers remains at a very low level.



# PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRI- CULTURAL
1. Number of properties in district	2,871	538
2. a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	682	63
b. Number infested by (i) Rats	430	63
(ii) Mice	12	-
3. a. Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	10	126
b. Number infested by (i) Rats	120	112
(ii) Mice	-	-
4. Total No. of Treatments carried out including re-treatments	562	175

## Other Disinfestation

During the year a group of 8 houses were treated for cockroach infestation. Four of these houses were treated the previous year for a similar 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 under the control of the Public Health Inspector.



## Refuse Collection and Disposal (continued)

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. Whilst the scheme remained basically unchanged throughout the year, a great deal of consideration was given to ways and means of improving the service and finally, towards the end of the year, an order was placed for a new 35 Cu. Yd. collecting vehicle. With the purchase of this large vehicle it is hoped to be able to bring into operation a much improved service.

The Council have their main refuse tip at Llanvihangel Crucorney and a second small tip in the Plough area. Disposal is by means of a semi-controlled system. Negotiations for the acquisition of a large tip site in the Govilon area are nearly completed and it is proposed to bring this into service in conjunction with the improved collection scheme.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Most of the populated parts of the district are sewered, 1,568 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.

Two men are now employed full-time on the maintenance of the sewage works.

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.

At the Mardy, Pandy, Grosmont and Great Oak works the sewage sludge is semi-dried on special beds and then dug out and removed from the site for final disposal. At the remaining works sludge removal and disposal is by means of a liquid sludge tanker vehicle under private contract arrangements. Consideration is being given to the need to purchase a suitable desludging vehicle in order that the frequency of desludging may be increased, at a reasonable cost, in order to improve the efficiency of the works.

With the exception of the Great Oak Works, the treated sewage is disposed of into water courses and the quality of such effluents is controlled by the appropriate River Authority. 80% of the samples of sewage works effluent taken by the Usk River Authority during the year April 1965 to March 1966 were found to be unsatisfactory and this generally has been the case in recent years. The quality of the effluents has been a cause for considerable concern and in order that proposals might be considered for their improvement a major investigation into all aspects of the treatment of sewage was carried out at each individual works. This resulted in several reports being considered and the carrying out of a pilot scheme of improvements at the Llanvair Kilgeddin works. Upon the satisfactory completion of this work, details of similar improvements to the other works were presented to the Public Health Committee in December and discussion on this last report was carried over into 1967.

This year saw the coming into operation of the new Grosmont and Llanellen sewerage and sewage disposal schemes. The scheme at Grosmont provides main drainage to the whole of the village for the first time. At Llanellen the new works has been designed to replace an existing but greatly overloaded unit serving the Council estate, to receive the drainage from the rest of the village and to allow for a considerable amount of future development.

The preparation of a scheme to improve the sewerage and disposal systems at Llanover is nearly complete and consideration is being



# Sewerage and Sewage Disposal (continued)

given to providing, for the first time, a sewerage scheme for the village of Brynygwenin, to extending the Pandy sewer to Llanvihangel Crucorney and to enlarging the Llanvapley disposal works.

## DETAILS OF HOUSES CONNECTED TO A MAIN SEWER

PARISH	WARD	No. of Houses	No. of Houses connected to a main sewer	
Abergavenny Rural		7	9	
Llanddewi Skirrid		34		
Crucorney Fawr	Llanvihangel Crucorney	202	56	Main sewer extension proposed.
	Oldcastle	9		
	Bwlch Trewyn	24		
	Lower Cwmyoy	45	8	
	Upper Cwmyoy	34		
	Fwthog	12		
Llantilio Pertholey	Fforest	47		Proposal being considered for a new sewerage scheme at Brynygwenin.
Llanarth Fawr	Llanarth	63	24	New sewage disposal works at Great Oak.
	Clytha	65		
	Bryngwyn	79	23	Consideration has been given to enlarging the Llanvapley works.
	Llanvapley	41	8	
	Bettws Newydd	22		
Llanover Fawr	Llanover	121	77	Proposals well advanced for enlarging the Llanover works.
	Llanvihangel-nigh-Usk	38		



# Details of Houses connected to a Main Sewer (continued)

PARISH	WARD	No. of Houses	No. of Houses connected to a main sewer	
Llanover Fawr (cont.)	Llangattock-nigh-Usk	116	51	
	Llansantffraed	2		
	Llanvair			
	Kilgeddin	83	17	
	Llanddewi Rhydderch	96	20	
Llanfoist Fawr	Llanfoist	253	212	Enlarged scheme under construction at Llanellen.
	*Llanellen	109	38	
	Llanwenarth			
	Citra	86	8	
	Llanwenarth			
	Ultra	396	332	
	Pwlldu	2		
Grosmont Fawr	*Grosmont	136	48	Enlarged scheme under construction at Grosmont
	Llangua	23		
	Llangattock			
	Lingoed	36		
	Llanvetherine	37	4	
		3021	1568	

\* 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, Llanthony and Grosmont; a large proportion of the district is supplied from these four 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 and Llanthony 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, at Grosmont three times per week, and at Llanthony twice 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 and Croesonnen housing estates 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 last year and a scheme to continue this main through to the Rural District of Monmouth has just been approved by the Ministry and is about to go out for tender. This new main will serve parts of the rural area at present without a main supply and will also improve the mains supply in other areas.

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



# Water Supplies (Continued)

Source	Raw Water		Treated Water	
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Water Supplies	0	0	30	5
Wells & Springs	9	27	0	0

Three of the five unsatisfactory samples of mains water listed above were taken on the same day from the Llanover supply at the beginning of January at a time when the chlorinating apparatus, which failed towards the end of December 1965, had not been properly repaired. As a result of a thorough investigation into this and other similar incidents which occurred about the same time, measures have now been adopted which have greatly reduced the number of unsatisfactory samples taken.

During the course of the year samples were taken from 20 springs and wells used for private supplies and of these, only 3 were entirely satisfactory before improvements were carried out. It is estimated that there are upwards of 500 of these private supplies in use and the sampling figures give some indication of the amount of improvement work necessary.



## Water Supplies (continued)

PARISH	No. of Houses	Pop.	WARD	No. of Houses	Pop.	Water Supply by Public Water Mains			
						Direct to Houses		Stand Pipes	
						Houses	Pop.	Houses	Pop.
Abergavenny Rural	71	1,268		70	1,268	29	1,120	New main now available	
Llanddewi Skirrid	34	100		34	100	12	36		
Crucorney Fawr	328	848	Llanvihangel Oldcastle Bwlch Trewyn Lower Cwmyoy Upper Cwmyoy Fwthog	202 9 24 45 34 12	525 23 63 117 89 31	129	335		
Llantilio Pertholey	785	2,425	Fforest	738 47	2,276 149	726 7	2,252 23	3	6
Llanarth Fawr	269	825	Llanarth Clytha Bryngwyn Llanvapley Bettws Newydd	63 64 75 41 22	195 202 233 127 68	49 42 53 30 16	152 130 164 93 50	1	2
Llanover Fawr	456	1,291	Llanover Llanvihangel-nigh-Usk Llangattock-nigh-Usk Llansantffraed Llanvair Kilgeddin Llanddewi Rhydderch	121 38 116 2 83 96	350 110 305 6 241 279	150 32 100 2 69 81	299 93 255 6 198 233		
Llanfoist Fawr	846	2,351	Llanfoist Llanellen Llanwenarth Citra Llanwenarth Ultra Pwlldu	253 109 86 396 2	704 310 249 1,081 8	230 80 69 355 2	632 225 210 955 8	1	1
Grosmont Fawr	232	680	Grosmont Llangua Llangattock Lingoed Llanvetherine	136 23 36 37	397 68 106 109	74 19	219 57		
Totals:	3,021	9,789		3,021	9,789	2,315	7,801	5	9











