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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 7

*

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

Medical Officer of Health

and

Medical Officer of Health No. 10 Area

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ABERGAVENTNY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

To the Chairman and Members of the
Abergavenny Rural District Council

A N N U A L R E P O R T

1 9 6 7

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In previous reports I have discussed the health and sickness of the community during infancy and in old age with particular reference to the principal causes of sickness and death. A brief resume has also been given of the present day community medical services available for the various age groups. This year it is proposed to consider the health of the school child. The school health service has been applied for some fifty years and I am sure we all appreciate the fantastic changes in the physical standards of our children during this period.

Fifty years ago, school buildings were frequently situated badly, alongside main roads and many of them could only be described as dark, dismal and dreary structures. All schools were overcrowded and unhygienic - any movement being sufficient to raise clouds of dust. When advised that the floors should be treated with dustless oil teachers acknowledged the resulting improvement in acoustics but raised loud objections due to the soiling of the Prussian braid on their long gowns. Since then, the mood and mode have certainly changed, and not only by the appearance of the mini-skirt! Slowly and painfully modern schools have replaced some of the old, antiquated buildings while the general environment and sanitation of others have been improved.

Pioneer school medical officers were appalled to see children of three, four, and five years of age sitting in the most awful positions on uncomfortable forms, with no manner of back support. Large numbers were dirty, undernourished and adenoidal. Their clothing could not be compared in impoverishment with their footwear, many of them were barefooted in winter as in summer. Skin diseases, pediculosis and rickets were exceedingly common and it is easy to understand the grave effects upon the eyesight and physique of children when admitted to such schools at the tender age of three years. In addition to the large numbers of physically diseased bodies, many of the children were so dirty and verminous that they had to stand on large sheets of paper while they were being undressed prior to bathing. In those days, fleas were treated by the parents with a lofty disdain, as for example, one mother, a charwoman, who calmly informed the Doctor "The child has only got fleas, you get them in the best houses."

Following the Education Act of 1907, free meals were provided for the poor and needy school children. Here is an instance of the unimaginative type of menu provided :-

Monday	-	Bread and Cheese.	Boiled Jam Roll.
Tuesday	-	Irish Stew,	Currant Bread.
Wednesday	-	Green Pea and Vegetable Soup.	Boiled Rice and Currants.
Thursday	-	Irish Stew and Baked Jam Roll.	
Friday	-	Bread and Cheese and Bread and Jam.	Rice Pudding.

Sufficient bread to be supplied each day. Milk was provided at this time and the importance of vitamins was yet to be universally realised. However, such a diet was valuable if only to relieve the pangs of hunger.

Contrast with an example of a present day menu :-

Monday	-	Corned Beef. Tinned Beans. Potatoes. Steam Sultana Pudding and Custard.
Tuesday	-	Roast Lamb. Cauliflower. Potatoes and Gravy. Fruit Flan and Custard.
Wednesday	-	Hot Cheese Pie. Peas and Potatoes. Baked Sponge and Custard.
Thursday	-	Fried Fish. Tomatoes and Potatoes. Baked Apple, shortbread and Custard.
Friday	-	Stewed beef with onions, carrots and potatoes. Jam Tart and Custard.

The supplementary feeding of school children has been greatly extended during recent years. Milk in schools was introduced in 1934. Between 1946 and 1967, all children attending State aided schools have been entitled to 1/3 pint of milk daily and free of charge. Similarly, there has been a steady increase in the number and variety of mid-day meals served in all schools throughout the district, the school dinner being no longer limited to the poor and under-nourished but available to all for the modest sum of 5/- per week. (Increased to 7/6d. per week in 1968).

Meanwhile, the school medical service branched out in various directions. Dental inspection and treatment by a school dentist were introduced in Monmouthshire about 1914. Soon, great care was to be shown in the ascertainment of the "abnormal" child. Unfortunately, having ascertained abnormality, there was very little that could be done for this category. The problem of finding suitable day and residential accommodation was more difficult then than today. During the 'twenties' attention was focused on the crippled child and Orthopedic clinics were established. Despite the efficiency of such schemes, many of the children found difficulty in securing employment when in competition with their colleagues. Therefore, approved training centres gradually came into existence for the purpose of teaching suitable handicraft trades for the physically handicapped.

The work of school medical inspectors made Doctors familiar not only with the physical, but also the mental defects from which school children suffered. It was gradually realised that there was a need for early diagnosis and treatment of these behaviour anomalies, which are so often the roots of juvenile delinquency. During the last twenty years, child guidance clinics have been established in this county and we have watched the development of ascertainment, training and supervision of the mentally handicapped. Many of us feel that 'parent guidance Clinics' may be the answer to many child behaviour anomalies. Simultaneously there have been developments in the early diagnosis and treatment of the deaf, the partially sighted and the delicate school children with increasing provision made for their special education.

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The bare footed and ragged school child has long since vanished. Today the majority of school children are robust and well. Age for age they are taller, heavier and cleaner than their predecessors. The physical attributes of children from the well-to-do and of those from the poor homes approximate one another more and more. No firm conclusions can be made from annual fluctuations in growth rates but the broad trend is significant. Under-nutrition in children has, more or less, ceased to be a problem. Recently, there have been comments on the increasing incidence of overweight in school children. More obese than undernourished children are now reported but the number in each group is small. It does seem that nutritional problems of the sixties are related more to excess than deficiency. Indeed, in the adult community, slimming has assumed an important activity.

We must not blind ourselves to the fact that there are still serious hazards to the health and life of children. More children between the ages of 5 and 15 years die from accidents than from congenital defects and all the circulatory, genito urinary, infections and respiratory diseases together. Besides, accidents not only kill but often leave much suffering and disability in their wake. Congenital defects and diseases sometimes kill but more often leave severe handicaps. They call for further and continued research into their causes. Some fifteen per cent of children examined, shortly after school entry, are found to have one or more defects requiring treatment. Thus, although most school children are well, there is still a need for the school health service.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

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

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	62,685
Population	9,750
Number of Inhabited Houses	2,873
(According to Rate Book 31/12/67)	
Rateable Value	£180,180
ld. Rate	711

<u>1967</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births:			
Legitimate	69	64	133
Illegitimate	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	71	66	137

Live Birth Rate:	Rural District	County	E. & W.
Per 1,000 population	14.05	16.3	17.2
Comparability Factor 1.2	14.05	16.86	
Adjusted Live Birth Rate			

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Still Births:			
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate:	Rural District	County	E. & W.
Per 1,000 Live and Still Births	7.2	16.99	14.8
Per 1,000 Population	0.1	0.29	

DEATHS	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
All causes	81	85	166

Death Rate per 1,000 population	Rural District	County	E. & W.
	17.8	11.29	11.2
Comparability Factor	0.55		
Adjusted Death Rate	$17.3 \times 0.55 = 9.52$	County 12.87	

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Death from Cancer (all forms)	4	9	13
Deaths from lung cancer	3	-	3
Deaths due to Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	-	-	Nil
Maternal Death Rate	Rural District	County	
(Rate per 1,000 Live Births)	0	0.49	

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infant Mortality	2	-	2
Infant Mortality Rate	Rural District	County	E. & W.
(Rate per 1,000 total Live Births)	14.6	21.82	18.3
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate - first 4 weeks	14.6	14.88	12.5
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Under 1 week)	14.6	12.51	10.8
Perinatal Mortality (Still births and Infant deaths under 1 week) per 1,000 total live and still births	21.7	29.09	25.4

Perinatal Mortality in Abergavenny Rural District (1959 - 1967)

Year	Number of First Week Deaths	Number of Still Births	Perinatal Mortality Rate
1967	2	1	21.7
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 (1959-1967)

Abergavenny Borough, Abergavenny Rural District and Monmouthshire County

YEAR	ABERGAVENTNY BOROUGH	ABERGAVENTNY RURAL DISTRICT	MONMOUTHSHIRE
1967	37.5	21.7	29.09
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, 1967

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis		1	1
Syphilitic Disease		-	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases		-	-
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach		-	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung and Bronchus		3	-
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus		-	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast		-	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms		1	4
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia		-	-
Diabetes		-	2
Vascular Lesions of nervous system		13	13
Coronary Disease, Angina		19	5
Hypertension with Heart Disease		-	1
Other Heart Diseases		12	21
Other Circulatory Diseases		3	10
Influenza		-	-
Pneumonia		6	9
Bronchitis		3	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System		3	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum		3	-
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea		-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis		-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate		4	-
Congenital Malformations		-	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases		7	6
Accidents (Motor Vehicle)		2	-
Suicide		-	-
All other accidents		1	3
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		81	85

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (1967)

(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	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
	F	3	2	0	0	0	0	5
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	1	1
	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	1	1
Abortus Fever	M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	F	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS

Notified	Pulmonary	M 4	F 1	Non Pulmonary	M 0	F 0
Deaths	Pulmonary	M 1	F 1	Non Pulmonary	M 0	F 0

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

Numbers Vaccinated

Age Groups	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Under 1 year	44	46	37	60	50	40	4	1	1	0	3
1 - 4 years	12	6	18	13	40	158	7	31	31	67	11
5 - 14 years	6	5	9	0	8	667	3	1	1	1	1
15 years plus	28	14	8	2	4	1453	1	0	0	6	0
Total:	90	71	72	75	102	2318	15	33	33	74	15

In addition there were 5 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	1967
Under 5 years	Dip	141	77	112	39	70	137	88	83	99	119	147	139
	Whc				54	80	114	80	84	88	118	147	139
	Tet						128	85	90	89	107	150	146
5 - 14 years	Dip	58	5	205	3	48	8	3	5	7	13	9	21
	Whc					4	1	0	0	4	10	9	5
	Tet						7	1	7	3	19	43	22
Totals	Dip	199	82	317	42	118	145	91	88	106	132	156	160
	Whc				54	84	115	80	84	92	128	156	144
	Tet						135	86	97	92	126	193	168

In addition to the above, 219 children were given "Booster" diphtheria prophylactic injections, 14 "Booster" Whooping Cough injections and 222 "Booster" Tetanus injections.

Cytology Statistics for 1966 and 1967 (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	1966	378	17	261	11	30	-	18	-
	1967	280	34	181	18	25	1	5	-
Abertillery	1966	303	1	202	1	17	-	1	-
	1967	481	77	263	32	51	2	11	-
Blaina	1966	276	17	161	0	22	1	16	-
	1967	299	12	161	8	16	-	5	1
Caldicot	1966	172	4	118	3	6	-	3	-
	1967	411	29	274	15	56	-	2	-
Chepstow	1966	319	21	233	12	22	1	9	-
	1967	115	51	78	26	13	1	1	-
Cwmbran	1966	529	23	387	15	38	-	5	-
	1967	873	109	605	60	80	3	10	3
Croesy-ceiliog	1966	402	26	291	19	29	3	11	-
	1967	216	52	153	31	36	1	4	-
Ebbw Vale	1966	270	11	182	7	22	4	7	1
	1967	458	25	280	16	41	2	8	-
Monmouth	1966	358	14	174	9	18	3	2	-
	1967	198	19	127	14	22	1	5	-
Newport	1966	356	41	237	20	29	2	8	-
	1967	426	67	254	41	38	2	7	-
Pontypool	1966	922	86	570	59	72	2	23	1
	1967	1033	119	653	68	73	3	2	3
Pontllan-fraith	1966	1167	76	729	49	96	4	25	1
	1967	1254	138	741	68	92	4	12	2
Risca	1966	587	29	410	22	59	2	36	-
	1967	605	81	375	43	54	2	7	-
Tredegar	1966	285	8	177	5	21	-	6	1
	1967	395	45	234	18	44	4	11	2
	1966	6324	374	4132	240	480	22	170	4
	1967	7044	858	4379	456	643	26	90	11

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, 1967.

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.

The simple enforcement of the wide variety of public health legislation would seem, at first sight, to be the main function of the public health inspector. I can say, however, from experience that the rural public health inspector, with his close personal contact with the residents, is faced with a demand for advice and information, both technical and practical which, if it were met in full, would consume practically all of his time. On the other hand, there is no doubt that all such reasonable requests must be given due and careful consideration and this is found to be a service which is very time consuming.

This is not to say, however, that it is time wasted. On the contrary, it is generally time well spent and as these matters all touch on public health problems, the net end result must be reflected in the steady improvement of the environment of the district.

There obviously has to be a limit to the amount of time that can be given to this kind of function but I like to think, nevertheless, that the residents know confidently that they can gain free and easy access to their Council, through its Public Health Officer, for careful and courteous consideration of their problems.

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 two premises and these are found generally to be satisfactory. In total 32 dogs and 3 cats are catered for.

CARAVAN SITES

25 Site licences were issued in conjunction with temporary planning consents in respect of residential sites containing one caravan. One site holds a permanent licence for 4 residential caravans and another for one caravan only.

Four sites are permanently licensed for six months of the year for holiday caravans, the sites containing 4, 7, 8 and 25 caravans respectively. A further three sites are licensed annually for holiday use and contain 5, 5 and 15 caravans respectively.

Conditions generally on the sites are good.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

A total of 19 premises were registered as factories during the year, plus 9 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 (the provision of sanitary conveniences) 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 sanitary convenience was remedied as a result of informal action, and in 4 cases sanitary conveniences were made to be provided on building sites.

Outworkers

10 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

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (Continued):-

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Insp- ections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	19	10	nil	nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-works premises).	17	7	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. Inspec- tor (4)	By H.M. Inspec- tor (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 Convenienced(S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	4	4	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:	5	5	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. Wearing) Cleaning apparel) and) Washing	10 nil nil	nil nil nil	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 an insect in a bag of sugar was received during the year. The actual vendor was not established and so no action was taken except that the need for proper storage facilities and for strict stock rotation was stressed generally to those who may have been concerned.

Food Hygiene

Visits of Inspection:

	No. of Premises	No. of Visits	No. of warnings verbal and written	No. of Infringements
Grocers	28	20	9	23
Other Food Premises	3	5	2	5
Ice-Cream Premises	34	27	-	-
Cafes	2	8	2	5
Street Vendors	15	10	10	32
Licensed Clubs	2	2	-	-
Licensed Premises	34	31	19	76
	118	103	42	141

Food Hygiene

Visits of Inspection (Continued):

	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	24	34	34
Other Food Premises	3	3	3

In addition to the visits listed above 14 food stalls were inspected at the Abergavenny & Border Counties Show. As a result of these inspections several stall-holders were warned and a total of 24 summonses were taken out against four stall-holders.

These summonses were not heard until 1968 but it can be said that one set of 8 summonses had to be withdrawn because they could not be served, the information given by the person on the stall having proved to be false.

Another two sets of four summonses failed due to misleading information about ownership being given at the time of the inspection.

These events have demonstrated the continuing need for vigilance in connection with food hygiene where food is served to large numbers of people at short stay open air meetings and also for the need for organisers to make themselves aware of the standards and bona fides of those whom they permit to sell food at their meeting and for whom they are responsible.

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 are 12 producer/distributors in the area and these dairies are controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food. A further 5 retailers are licensed by the County Council.

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

(Note: The increase from 1 to 12 producer/distributors occurs as the result of more up-to-date information from the Ministry).

HOUSING

I. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

(1)(a)	Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (Public Health Act and Housing Act)	103
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	285
(2)	Number of dwellings found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	20

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 ...	1
(b)	Number of unfit houses made fit as a result of informal action ...	2
(c)	Number of Closing Orders made ...	3
(d)	Number of Demolition Orders made ...	3
(e)	Number of unfit houses demolished ...	1
(f)	Number of unfit houses on which undertakings were accepted ...	14
(g)	Number of unfit houses subject to change of use ...	NIL

Improvement Grants

(1) Standard Grants:

(a)	Number of applications received during the year ...	14
(b)	Number of applications approved during the year ...	14
(c)	Number of applications withdrawn during the year ...	NIL
(d)	Expenditure ranking for grants approved during the year ...	2,905
(e)	Number of cases in which work was completed ...	16
(f)	Expenditure paid out on work completed during the year ...	£2,023. 0. 0.

(2) Discretionary Grants:

(a)	Number of applications received during the year ...	9
(b)	Number of applications approved during the year ...	9
(c)	Number of applications withdrawn during the year ...	NIL
(d)	Expenditure ranking for grants approved during the year ...	£3,210.10. 0.
(e)	Number of cases where work was completed during the year ...	8
(f)	Expenditure paid out on work completed during the year ...	£3,030. 0. 0.

The interest shown in grant-aided works of improvement remains very poor. In view of the general character of houses within the district, this is a cause for concern and I am considering the possibility of some forceful form of publicity to try and overcome this.

ROUTING

I. Inspection of Dwelling Houses

- (1)(a) Total number of houses inspected and reported for
(Public Health Act and Housing Act)
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose
- (2) Number of dwellings found to be in a state of
disrepair and the number to be repaired for the
purpose

II. Action under the Housing Act

- (a) Number of houses in which the Housing Act
has been applied
- (b) Number of houses in which the Housing Act
has been applied for the purpose of
improving the
condition of the
dwelling
- (c) Number of houses in which the Housing Act
has been applied for the purpose of
improving the
condition of the
dwelling
- (d) Number of houses in which the Housing Act
has been applied for the purpose of
improving the
condition of the
dwelling
- (e) Number of houses in which the Housing Act
has been applied for the purpose of
improving the
condition of the
dwelling
- (f) Number of houses in which the Housing Act
has been applied for the purpose of
improving the
condition of the
dwelling
- (g) Number of houses in which the Housing Act
has been applied for the purpose of
improving the
condition of the
dwelling

Improvement Grants

- (1) Standard Grants
(a) Number of applications received for the purpose
(b) Number of applications received for the purpose
(c) Number of applications received for the purpose
(d) Number of applications received for the purpose
(e) Number of applications received for the purpose
(f) Number of applications received for the purpose
(g) Number of applications received for the purpose
- (2) Discretionary Grants
(a) Number of applications received for the purpose
(b) Number of applications received for the purpose
(c) Number of applications received for the purpose
(d) Number of applications received for the purpose
(e) Number of applications received for the purpose
(f) Number of applications received for the purpose
(g) Number of applications received for the purpose

The following table shows the number of houses in which the Housing Act has been applied for the purpose of improving the condition of the dwelling for the year 1951-52.

In view of the general character of the Housing Act, the following table shows the number of houses in which the Housing Act has been applied for the purpose of improving the condition of the dwelling for the year 1951-52.

of public to try and overcome this.

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	1
Retail Shops		5	4
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses		1	-
Catering Establishments open to the Public and Canteens		9	9

Total Number of Visits to Registered Premises:

27

No great difficulties have been experienced in implementing this still comparatively new Act and co-operation from the owners continues to be 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.

Rat activity in sewers remains at a very low level.

The increase in the number of complaints experienced during the last half of last year continued into 1967 but soon declined. The total number of visits of inspection made this year are up considerably but the number of infestations found is well down on last year's figures.

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 107

Class of Business	Number of Establishments	
	Registered	Not Registered
Offices	1	0
Retail Shops	1	0
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	1	0
Catering Establishments and to the Public and Government	1	0

Total Number of Establishments Registered: 4

No gross receipts have been reported for the year ending 1936, and no gross receipts have been reported for the year ending 1935.

REMARKS

Most of the activities of this department consist of the collection of information, and the dissemination of information to the public.

FINANCIAL

Very few expenditures were reported for the year ending 1936, and no expenditures were reported for the year ending 1935.

REMARKS

This work is reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and is not reported to the State Department. The work is reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and is not reported to the State Department.

Not active in the year ending 1936.

The increase in the number of establishments reported for the year ending 1936, and the increase in the number of establishments reported for the year ending 1935, are due to the increase in the number of establishments reported for the year ending 1936, and the increase in the number of establishments reported for the year ending 1935.

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

1. Number of properties in district
2. a. Total number of properties
(including nearby premises)
inspected following notification
- b. Number infested by (i) Rats
(ii) Mice
3. a. Total number of properties inspected
for rats and/or mice for reasons
other than notification
- b. Number infested by (i) Rats
(ii) Mice
4. Total No. of Treatments carried out
including re-treatments

TYPE OF PROPERTY	
NON- AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
*3,409	538
741	56
89	56
23	20
12	93
140	93
-	29
528	149

* This figure includes all agricultural properties.
Other Disinfestation

The group of 8 houses treated over the last two years for cockroach infestation had to be treated again this year and to effect this, new methods of disinfestation were carried out over the whole row of 24 houses. This action seems to have been very effective.

The houses in the district remain substantially free from insect infestation although our contractor is called upon to deal occasionally with complaints of cluster flies, wasps, bees and even bats.

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.

The collection, which is a kerbside one, is carried out weekly in most parts of the district with just three difficult or isolated small areas being served fortnightly. This is a much improved service over previous years made possible by the acquisition of an additional and much larger vehicle, additional staff, and the opening of a new tip at Govilon. Most of the tipping is done at Govilon but the Council retain the use of two other sites at Llanvihangel Crucorney and Croes Hywel.

During the course of the year a joint investigating Committee was set up between this Council, Abergavenny Borough Council and Crickhowell Rural District Council to consider alternative methods of disposal to tipping.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Most of the populated parts of the district are sewered, 1,587 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. Complaints concerning nuisances caused by septic tanks are few but there are a surprisingly large number of requests from owners for information and advice.

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

In the cases of Grosmont, Pandy, Llanddewi Rhydderch, Llanover, Llanarth, Llanellen, 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. The need to purchase a suitable desludging vehicle in order that the frequency of desludging may be increased, at a reasonable cost, so as to improve the efficiency of the works, has been given much consideration and now an order has been placed for the supply of a vehicle in the New Year.

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. There was a considerable improvement in the quality of the effluents over previous years but there remains considerable room for improvement in this direction. I am at present experimenting with a very simple form of mechanical flocculator in both the settlement and humus tanks and the results so far have been most encouraging with much improved effluents.

This year saw the completion 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 still being given to

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal (Continued)

providing, for the first time, a sewerage scheme for the village of Brynygwenin and to enlarging the Llanvapley disposal works. The extension of the Pandy sewer to Llanvihangel Crucorney is now under way.

DETAILS OF HOUSES CONNECTED TO A MAIN SEWER

PARISH	WARD	** No. of Houses	No. of Houses connected to a main sewer	REMARKS
Abergavenny Rural		71	9	
Llanddewi Skirrid		34		
Crucorney Fawr	Llanvihangel Crucorney	216	68	Main sewer extension under construction.
	Oldcastle	9		
	Bwlch Trewyn	24		
	Lower Cwmyoy	45	8	
	Upper Cwmyoy	34		
	Fwthog	12		
Llantilio Pertholey	Fforest (Mardy, Croesonnen, Llwynu) (Remainder)	47 620 247	620	Proposal being consider- ed for a new sewerage scheme at Brynygwenin.
Llanarth Fawr	Llanarth	63	24	
	Clytha	64		
	Bryngwyn	79	23	
	Llanvapley	41	8	
	Bettws Newydd	22		
Llanover Fawr	Llanover	121	77	Proposals well advanced for enlarging the Llanover works.
	Llanvihangel- nigh-Usk	38		
	Llangattock- nigh-Usk	116	51	
	Llansantffraed	2		
	Llanvair			
	Kilgeddin	83	17	
	Llanddewi			
	Rhydderch	97	21	
Llanfoist Fawr	Llanfoist	253	212	New sewage works in operation.
	Llanellen	*109	38	
	Llanwenarth			
	Citra	86	8	
	Llanwenarth			
	Ultra	405	341	
	Pwlldu	2		

Details of Houses connected to a Main Sewer (Continued)

PARISH	WARD	** No. of Houses	No. of Houses connected to a main sewer	REMARKS
Grosmont Fawr	Grosmont	*144	58	New sewage works in operation.
	Llangua	23		
	Llangattock	36		
	Lingoed	37	4	
	Llanvetherine			
		3,180	1,587	

* Approximate figures.

** This figure includes business premises with a flat or living accommodation attached.

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 supplies water to the Fforest area. The supply to the Llwynu and Croesonnen housing estates is from the Abergavenny Borough mains.

A new main to Pen-y-val, from the Newport and South Monmouthshire Water Board main at Llanellen, was installed in 1965 and a scheme to continue this main through to the Rural District of Monmouth was got under way at the close of the year. This new main and the various branch mains will serve parts of the rural area at present without a main supply and will also improve the mains supply in other areas.

Water Supplies (Continued)

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

Source	Raw Water		Treated Water	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Water Supplies	0	0	37	12
Wells & Springs	4	10	0	0

The unsatisfactory samples of mains water were mainly from the Grosmont and Llanthony supplies which have occurred despite attempts in recent years to avoid such happenings. It will be noted that they both have drip feed chlorination and are left for several days without attention. More frequent visits is the only answer in order to establish and regulate the chlorine dose.

The task of investigating and improving the private supplies to isolated houses continues at a steady pace.

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.
Abergavenny Rural	* 71	1,268		71	1,268	* 29	1,120	New main now available	
Llanddewi Skirrid	34	100		34	100	12	36		
Crucorney Fawr	340	875	Llanvihangel Oldcastle Bwlch Trewyn Lower Cwmoy Upper Cwmoy Fwthog	214 9 24 45 34 12	550 23 63 117 89 31	141	365		
Llantilio Pertholey	914	2,812	All Wards except Fforest Fforest	867 47	2,663 149	855 7	2,639 23		
Llanarth Fawr	269	825	Llanarth Clytha Bryngwyn Llanvapley Betws Newydd	63 64 79 41 22	195 202 233 127 68	49 42 53 30 16	152 130 164 93 50	1	2
Llanover Fawr	457	1,294	Llanover Llanvihangel-nigh-Usk Llangattock-nigh-Usk Llansantffraed Llanvair Kilgeddin Llanddewi Rhydderch	121 39 116 2 83 96	350 113 305 6 241 279	150 33 100 2 69 81	299 96 255 6 198 233		
Llanfoist Fawr	855	2,376	Llanfoist Llanellen Llanwenarth Citra Llanwenarth Ultra Pwlldu	253 109 86 405 2	704 310 249 1,106 8	230 80 69 364 2	632 225 210 982 8	1	1
Grosmont Fawr	240	695	Grosmont Llangua Llanvetherine Llangattock Lingoed	144 23 37 36	412 68 109 106	82 19	234 57		
Totals:	3,180	10,245		3,180	10,245	2,474	8,258	2	3

* Includes Pen-y-val Hospital

