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Contributors

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THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLAENAVON.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT.FOR THE YEAR, 1940.

October, 1941.

Miss Lewis and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Fifth Annual Report regarding the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District of Blaenavon for the year ended December 31st, 1940.

In consequence of the increased pressure of work in the Public Health Department caused through war conditions and the need for economy in the use of paper, the report will be greatly curtailed and confined principally to statistics and essential matters which have affected Public Health during the period under review.

GENERAL HEALTH CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT
DURING THE YEAR.

The health of the district during the year was again on whole fairly good, and there were no causes of sickness or invalidity requiring special comment.

It is, in my opinion, most gratifying to find that the health of the population has remained so good, having regard for the worry and strain imposed through war conditions and the shortage of many of the essential, health giving, body building foods.

The fact that the district is also a reception area for evacuees, there having been at one period of the year more than 1,000 persons (principally children) officially billeted and from four to five hundred unofficial evacuees and refugees who came into the district and found accommodation, and that there were no serious cases of sickness amongst these persons is also a matter for much satisfaction.

PARTICULARS OF STATISTICS.Births and Deaths.

<u>Live Births.</u>	136	Legitimate	M. 74	F. 58
		Illegitimate	M. 1	F. 3

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 13.26.

<u>Still Births.</u>	11	Legitimate	M. 4	F. 7
		Illegitimate	M. 0	F. 0

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 1.06.

<u>Deaths.</u>	159	Males	85
		Females	74

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 15.51

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age 8.

Legitimate. M. 6 F. 2.
Illegitimate. M. 0 F. 0.

Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Births registered. 58.8

Deaths from Cancer (All ages)	10
Deaths from Measles (All ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (All ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years)	1

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	0
Other Puerperal Causes.	0

Estimated Population: 10,250.

Birth Rate - England and Wales	14.6
Death Rate - England and Wales	14.3
Infant Death Rate - England & Wales	55.0

COUNTY OF MONMOUTH.

Birth Rate	16.5
Death Rate	13.4
Infant Death Rate	67.7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No special comment is necessary on the infectious diseases notified.

DIPHTHERIA.

Thirty two cases of diphtheria were notified and three deaths occurred from this disease.

The number of cases notified show a reduction of fourteen on the previous year, when forty-six cases were notified.

Eleven cases were removed to Hospital; the others were isolated and nursed at home.

The Scheme for the immunization of school children and children of pre-school age commenced in 1939 was carried on until the end of March, when it was discontinued. This Scheme, which was carried out by the Medical Staff of the Monmouthshire County Council was very successful and resulted in a large number of children in the district being immunized against this disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

Twelve cases of Scarlet Fever were notified; no deaths resulted from this cause. As previously stated Scarlet Fever in this district has for some years been of a very mild type and calls for little comment. No cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to Hospital.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

Four cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis were notified and there was one death from this cause.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Three cases of Encephalitis Lethargica were notified; no deaths resulted from this disease.

PNEUMONIA.

Fourteen cases of Pneumonia were notified; nine deaths resulted from this cause.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

Two hundred and eighty eight cases of Measles and twenty-one of whooping Cough were notified. No deaths resulted from Measles; one death from Whooping Cough occurred.

Three cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and 9 of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified.

No cases of Malaria, Dysentery or Enteric Fever were notified.

There is no isolation hospital in the district for infectious cases.

It was found necessary during the year to remove 11 cases of Diphtheria and 4 of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis. Accommodation for these cases was provided at Tredegar and Bedwellty Isolation Hospitals. The cost of removal and treatment at these institutions was borne by this Authority.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL CASES AND DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED														DEATHS														NUMBER ADMITTED TO HOSPITALS.
	Number 1 yr.	Age Groups													Under 1 yr.	Age Groups							Total all ages.						
		1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	25	Total all ages.	1	2	3		4	5	10	15	20	25	35		45	65 & over	Total all ages.			
Diphtheria				2	3	17	7	1	2		32	1		1	1									3	11				
Scarlet Fever				1		6	3	1	1		12																		
Enteric Fever																													
Pneumonia	2	2	2		3	3		1	1	14	2	1	1			1				2	1	1		9					
Puerperal Fever																													
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1	1		1					4						1								1	4				
Acute Poliomyelitis																													
Enceph. Lethargic					1			1		1	3																		
Dysentery																													
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9									9																			
Puerperal Pyrexia								1	2	3																			
Other Diseases Status Maturus.																													
TOTALS.	12	3	3	3	28	13	4	6	2	77	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1			13	15				

Tuberculosis is not to be included in this summary.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Twenty-seven cases of Tuberculosis - 22 Pulmonary and 5 Non-pulmonary were notified during the year. This shows a decrease of eleven over the number of cases notified in 1939.

Seven deaths occurred from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

All cases of Tuberculosis notified are made the subject of inquiry and a report is made to the Association in accordance with Form T.1. Wales.

No action was necessary for the compulsory removal of persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis under Section 172 Public Health Act.

NEW CASES OF MORTALITY DURING, 1940.

Age periods	New Cases						Deaths	
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total	
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.
Under 1 year								
1-5		1	1	1		1	1	
5-15		5	5	1		1		
15-25		2	2	1		1		
25-35		2	2		1	1		
35-45		2	2	1		1		
45-55								
55-65								
65 and over.								
TOTALS.	12	10	22	4	1	5	1	8

Monthly Notifications of Tuberculosis

Month.	Total	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
January	6	2	3	1	
February	1	1			
March	3		3		
April	2			2	
May	3	1	1		1
June	4	2	2		
July	1	1			
August	3	2	1		
September					
October	3	3			
November	1			1	
December					
TOTAL	27	12	10	4	1

SHEET 6.

Comparison of Notifications and Deaths from Tuberculosis during the past five years.

YEAR.	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL.
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1936					
Notifications	4	2	0	2	8
Deaths	1	1	0	1	3
1937					
Notifications	3	16	1	0	20
Deaths	3	8	0	0	11
1938					
Notifications	15	14	2	1	32
Deaths	2	3	0	0	5
1939					
Notifications	13	18	6	1	38
Deaths	1	5	0	0	6
1940					
Notifications	12	10	4	1	27
Deaths	1	6	1	0	8

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) J.J. Crowe,

Medical Officer of Health.