[Report 1952] / Medical Officer of Health, Blaenavon U.D.C.

Contributors

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BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT for the year 1952.



F. J. Hallinan, M.B.E. (Mil), M.B., B.CH., D.P.H., Area Medical Officer, No.7 Area, Monmouthshire.

District Medical Officer, Blaenavon Urban District.

Council Offices, Lion Street, Blaenavon, Mon.

June, 1953

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT

Summary of Statistics - 1952.

Area of district Rateable value 1.4.'52. Estimated net product of 1d. rate (1951-1952) Number of inhabited houses (31.12.'52) Number of Council owned houses (31.12.'52) Population (estimated mid 1952) Number of persons per house. Census population (1931)-(5,847 males and 5,229 females) Census population (1951)-(4,975 males and 4,802 females) Number of live births Birth rate per 1,000 population Number of illegitimate births Number of stillbirths Number of deaths	4,613.acres. £34,063 £124.11.8.6 2,823 392 9,628 3.4 11,076 9,777 129 13.4 6
Death rate per 1,000 population Number of infant deaths	14.2
Infant mortality rate	23.3
Number of maternal deaths	Nil
Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis	3
Death rate per 1,000 population from pul. tuberculosis	0.31
Death mote nor 1 000 normalation due to cancer	22
Death rate per 1,000 population due to cancer Percentage of total deaths for 1952 due to tuberculosis (all forms)	2.28
Percentage of total deaths for 1952 due to cancer	16.1%

Year	Births	 Deaths
.1946	169	122
1947	202	156
1948	173	116
1949	155	137
1950	150	144
1951	123	125
1952	129	137

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health to the

Urban District Council of Blaenavon for the year ended December 31st, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the Blaenavon Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Miss Lewis and Gentlemen,

My Annual Report for the Urban District of Blaenavon for the year ending 31.12.'52 is herewith submitted in accordance with Articles 6(3) and 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and as directed in circular 2/23 (Wales) dated January 22nd,1953, of the Welsh Board of Health.

General Comment.

The Urban District of Blaenavon was singularly free from infectious disease during the year. For the third year in succession no case of diphtheria occurred which is a welcome reward for the vigorous anti-diphtheria immunisation campaign which is carried on in the schools and infant welfare clinic in the district. There has been no visitation from poliomyelitis also for the third year in succession, which is very gratifying. The district was also fortunate during the year under review to have escaped the paratyphoid epidemic which affected neighbouring districts.

The district was again favoured with a visit from a mobile unit of the Mass Radiography Service during April. It is somewhat disappointing to note that the general public did not avail themselves of this facility to the same extent as on the occasion of the previous survey in 1950, despite extensive preparatory propaganda and the fact that the unit was very conveniently located in the centre of the town. General mass radiography surveys lose the greater part of their value unless every person possible attends. It is only in this way that unidentified and possibly infective cases of pulmonary tuberculosis can be brought under treatment and the sources of infection controlled.

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General Statistics and Social Conditions.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population as at mid 1952 was 9,628. The 1951 census population was 9,777.

Estimated populations - mid 1952 - adjacent Urban Districts.

Abergavenny M.B. 9,058 Abercarn U.D.18,630 Abertillery U.D. 27,320 Bedwellty U.D. 28,560 Cwmbran U.D. 13,460 Ebbw Vale U.D. 28,690 Monmouth M.B. 5,748 Tredagar U.D.20,310 Pontypool U.D. 42,420

The workers in this district are mainly engaged in heavy industry such as coal mining and steel works, while, since the decline of the town's own industries, many travel long distances daily to work in other localities.

The Blaenavon Urban District is located at the apex of the Eastern Valley of Monmouthshire and is moderately well served for road and rail transport.

Apart from the urgent need for new industries the Blaenavon Urban District's greatest want is for new houses and the provision of an adequate and satisfactory water supply.

Rainfall

The district's rainfall for the year was recorded in the grounds of No.2, Reservoir and supplied by the Council's Surveyor, Mr. G.C.E. Thomas, J.P., and was as follows:-

Jan.	4.45 inches	July	2.53	inches
Feb.	0.93 "	Aug.	10.05	18
March.	3.49 "	Sept.	3.99	17
April.	3.65 "	Oct.	7.98	"
May	6.01 "	Nov.	4.43	17
June	3.15 "	Dec.	4.03	69

The district's rainfall during the last 10 years was as follows:-

1943	52.55	inches	1948	61.72	inches
1944	47.13	"	1949	50.90	14
1945	51.15	ii	1950	56.89	"
1946	67.78	11	1951	67.28	11
1947	47.74	"	1952	54.69	11

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VITAL STATISTICS

Table I Showing the yearly number of live births, estimated mid year populations and birth rate per 1,000 population for the district since 1946.

	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Number of births	129	123	150	155	173	202	169
Estimated mid- year population.	9,628	9,719	9,981	9,975	9,922	9,764	9,797
Birth rate per 1,000 population.	13.4	12.7	15.0	15.5	17.4	20.6	17.3

The number of live births assigned to this district for 1952 was 129, comprising 69 males and 60 females. There were 6 (3 males and 3 females) illegitimate births. There was an increase of 6 over the number of live births assigned to this district for 1951.

There were 3 (2 males and 1 female) stillbirths, all of legitimate birth, assigned to the district for 1952.

The stillbirth rate for England and Wales (per 1,000 population) was 0.35, while that for the Administrative County of Monmouthshire was 0.47 and that for the Blaenavon Urban District was 0.31.

For the second year in succession deaths exceeded births.

Comparative birth rates are shown in table X

The local birth rate for this district may be compared with that for England and Wales if the local rate is first multiplied by the comparability factor for births given by the General Register Office, which is 1.10.

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Table II Showing the births registered in and allocated to the Blaenavon Urban District for 1952, according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable births.

Month	Male	Female	Total	Quarterly births
January February March April	3 1 3 2 1	1 1 4 4 2 2 2	4)	10
May June July August September October	4 3 3 4	2 2 1 1 1	4) 2) 4) 5) 5) 5) 5) 1) 1)	17
November December	2 1	2 -	1)	6
Total	27	19	46	46
Inward trans- ferable birth		41		83
Grand total for year 1952	69	60	1	.29

Comparative birth rates for 1952.

Blaenavon Urban District		13.4
Monmouthshire Administrat	tive County	17.2
England and Wales		15.3

DEATHS

Table III Showing the yearly number of deaths, estimated mid-year population and the death rate per 1,000 population for the Blaenavon Urban District since 1946

	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Number of deaths	137	125	144	139	116	156	122
Estimated mid- year population.	9,628	9,719	9,981	9,975	9,922	9,764	9,797
Death rate per 1,000 population	14.2	12.9	14.4	13.7	11.7	15.8	12.5

The deaths allocated to this district for 1952 totalled 137, comprising 77 males and 60 females. There was an increase of 12 in the number of deaths as compared with the figure for 1951.

Table V shows how these 137 deaths were assigned to the various causes.

There were no maternal deaths due to pregnancy, child-birth or abortion. The maternal mortality rate for the Administrative County of Monmouthshire was 0.71 per 1,000 total births (live and still).

There were 3 deaths (1 male and 2 females) due to pulmonary tuberculosis. There were no deaths due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Tuberculosis deaths represented 2.2% of the total deaths for the year.

There were 22 (11 males and 11 females) deaths due to all forms of cancer during the year. There were no deaths assigned to cancer of the lungs and bronchi.

Diseases of the heart and blood vessels claimed 61 (34 males and 27 females) of a total of 137 deaths during the year, which is 44.5%

There were no deaths due to influenza.

Two deaths (1 male and 1 female) were assigned to pneumonia.

There were 4 deaths (2 males and 2 females) assigned to motor vehicle accidents.

All other accidents claimed 2 deaths (1 male and 1 female).

The local death rate may be compared with that for England and Wales if the local rate is first multiplied by the comparability factor given by the Ceneral Register Office, which is 1.03.

Table IV Showing the deaths registered in and assigned to the Blackwon Urban District for 1952 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable deaths.

	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly Deaths.	
January February March April May June July August September October November December.	5 11 10 5 4 4 2 1 2 1 6 5	277133443566	7) 18) 17) 6) 7) 7) 6) 5) 16) 12)	42 20 16 39	
Totals	66	51	117	117	
Inward trans- ferable deaths	11	9	20		
Grand Total for the year 1952.	77	60	137		

Comparative death rates

Blaenavon Urban District	14.2
Monmouthshire Administrative Co	ounty 11.5
England and Wales	11.3

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Table V Showing the deaths from all causes, infant deaths, births and stillbirths allocated to this district for 1952.

Causes of Death	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory. 2. Tuberculosis, other. 3. Syphilitic disease. 4. Diphtheria. 5. Whooping cough. 6. Meningococcal infections. 7. Acute poliomyelitis. 8. Measles. 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases. 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach. 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus. 12. Malignant neoplasm, uterus. 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus. 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms 15. Leukaemia and Aleukaemia. 16. Diabetes. 17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system. 18. Coronary disease, angina. 19. Hypertension with heart disease. 20. Other heart disease. 21. Other circulatory disease. 22. Influenza. 23. Pneumonia. 24. Bronchitis. 25. Other diseases of respiratory system. 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum. 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea. 28. Nephritis and nephrosis. 29. Hyperplasia of prostate:. 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion. 31. Congenital malformations. 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases. 33. Motor vehicle accidents. 34. All other accidents. 35. Suicide. 36. Homicide and operations of war.	3 8 49 18 2 - 10 43 - 21	2
Total all causes	77	60
Deaths in infants under 1 year of age:- Legitimate Illegitimate	1 88	1 -
Total births:- Legitimate Illegitimate	69 66 3	60 57 3
Stillbirths:- Legitimate Illegitimate	2 2 -	1 1 -

Estimated population - mid 1952 - 9,628 (for calculation of births and death rates)

Comparability factors:-Births

Deaths 1.10 1.03

Table VI Showing the number of inquests during 1952 on persons belonging to this district, and the circumstances of the deaths.

Circumstances of death	Male	Female	Total
Mining accidents (underground).	1	-	1
Accidental drowning.	-	1	1
Omnibus accidents (passengers).	1	2	3
Motor lorry accident (passenger).	1	-	1
Perforated gastric ulcer.	1	-	1
Suicides.	2	1	3
All causes	6	4	10

There were 10 inquests held on persons of this district who died through accidental or other means as listed above.

The mining fatality relates to a male aged 42 years.

The accidental drowning fatality relates to a female aged 5 years.

The three omnibus fatalities relate to two females aged 46 years and 54 years and a male aged 65 years.

The motor lorry accident refers to a male passenger aged 62 years who fell on to the roadway.

The three suicidal deaths refer to two males aged 37 years and 55 years and a female aged 41 years.

INFANT MORTALITY.

Table VII Showing the number of infant deaths, live births, etc., since 1946 in the Blaenavon Urban District.

	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Number of deaths in infants under 1 year.	3	6	2	8	8	7	11
Number of live births	. 129	123	150	155	173	202	169
Infant mortality rate (i.e. no.of deaths in infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births	23.3	48.8	13.3	51.6	46.2	34.6	65.1

There were 3 infant deaths during the year, comprising 2 males and 1 female - all of legitimate birth. This figure compares very favourably with the average figure of 7 deaths per year over the previous 6 years. All 3 deaths were neonatal and due to causes over which little control can be exercised.

The infant mortality rate for this district for 1952 was 23.3 as compared with a rate of 33.9 for the Administrative County of Monmouthshire.

Table VIII Showing the infant deaths assigned to this district for 1952, by cause and in age groups.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	l - 2 weeks	2 - 3 Weeks	3 - 4 Weeks	Total under month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	onth	9 - 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Prematurity	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Asphyxia in utero	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
All causes	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3

Table IX Showing the infant mortality rates for England and Wales, the County Boroughs and Great Towns, the smaller towns, the Administrative County of Monmouthshire and Blaenavon U.D. for 1952, 1951, 1950 and 1949.

	% Great Towns (Including London)		rative County of Monmouth-	
1949 32.0	33.8	30.0	42.7	51.6
1950 29.8		29.4	39.8	13.3
1951 29.6		27.6	43.1	48.8
1952. 27.6		25.8	33.9	23.3

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Comparison of the vital statistics for England and Wales, etc., the Administrative County of Mormouthshire, Blaenavon U.D., and Pontypool U.D., for the years 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952. Table X.

	Bird	Birth rates ner 1,000	nen s	1.000	nonilation	tion							Infa	Infant Mortelity	tr 1 1 tr	
3	Live	etill live births birth	live	etill live still births births	live	still births	live	still	Death 1,000	n rates per	rates per		(Derths	hs under 1 year 1.000 live births	er 1 y	ear
	1952	1952	1981	1981		1950	1949	1949	1952	1921	1950	1949	1952	1921	09FT	1949
England & Wales	15.3	0.35	15.5	0.36	15.8	0.37	16.7	0.39	11.3	12.5	11.6	11.7	27.6	29.6	89.8	32.0
160 Co. Boro's and Great Towns (Including London)	16.9	0.43	17.3 0.45		17.6	0.45	18.7	0.47	12.1	13.4	12.3	12.5	31.2	33.9	33.8	37.0
160 Smaller Towns (Resident pop. 25-50 thousand at 1951 census.	15.5	0.36	16.7	0.38	16.7	0.38	18.0	0.40	11.2	12.5	11.6	11.6	85. 85.	27.6	9.09	30.0
London Administrat-		17.6 0.34	17.8 0.37		17.8	0.36	18.5	0.37	12.6	13.1	11.8	12.2	23.8	26.4	26.3	0.62
Administrative Co. of Monmouthshire.	17.2	17.8 0.47	16.5	0.49	17.4	0.58	18.2	0.58	11.5	13.4	12.3	12.1	33.9	13.1	39.8	42.7
Pontypool U.D.	16.5	0.59	16.4	0.49	17.3	0.51	17.4	0.54	12.0	13.4	11.9	12.5	27.2	43.0	43.1	37.8
Blaenavon U.D.	13.4	13.4 0.31	12.7 0.82	-	15.0 0.	0.40	15.5	15.5 0.20	14.8	12.9	14.4	13.7	14.4 13.7 23.3 48.8	48.8	15.3	51.6

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NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Diphtheria

There was no notification of diphtheria during the year, and it will be noted that the last notification received for this disease was in 1949. In fact only one case has been notified in the district during the last 6 years. There can be no more convincing evidence of the efficiency of anti-diphtheria immunisation.

Primary immunisation (completed course) in the Blaenavon Urban District for 1952.

Age in	Years	Under 1 yr.	l yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs	4 yrs	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs	Total
Number	immunised.	58	36	2	3	3	39	6	147

Number of booster doses given in schools:- 412

Scarlet Fever

One notification was received in respect of scarlet fever during the year.

Measles

There were 35 (16 male and 19 female) notifications of measles during the year. There were no deaths assigned to this cause.

Whooping Cough

Twenty-two (11 males and 11 females) notifications of whooping cough were received during the year. No death was assigned to this cause.

Acute Primary Pneumonia

Two notifications (1 male and 1 female) were received in respect of this condition during the year.

Erysipelas

Five notifications (all female) of this condition were received during the year.

No notifications were received in respect of diphtheria, puerperal pyrexia, acute influenzal pneumonia, food poisoning, meningococcal infections, typhoid, paratyphoid, ophthalmia neonatorum, acute encephalitis or poliomyelitis during the year.

Table X1. Showing two infectious and other notifiable diseases notified in this district during 1952, analysed in sex and age groups and giving the admissions to hospital. (Tuberculosis excluded).

Disease	Under 1 yr.	Under 1 yr.	l - I	63	yrs	63	- yrs	4	yrs y	5 5	5 - 10 yrs		10-15 yrs	15-20 yrs		20-35 yrs		35-45 yrs		45-65 yrs	65	5 and	All	50		tte
	121	je,	in.	E.	M.	F.	M. F.	H.	臼	M.	E.	M.	F	M.	Er.	H. H.	. M.	14	. M.	E	M.	E.	:	F. Total	1 teal.	deo.
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person.	1	1	1	1		708		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1			1	
Acute primary pheumonia	1	,	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	7	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	Н	ਜ	1 03	
Acute iniluenzal preumonia	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-		1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	
Erysipeles	1	1	,	1	,	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	4	1	-	1	(C)	1	
Food poisoning	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	,	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	1		
Meningococcal infections	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	
Typhold	1	1	1	1	i	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	
Paratyphoid	1	,	1	,	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	'	
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Ophthalmia neona+2rum	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	
Acute encephalicis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	
Poliomyelitis:-	;			-	-			-								-	-							_	-	
Paralytic	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	'	
Non paralytic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	'	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	
Totals	1	120	4	1	4	5	10	0	10	13	10	1	1	1	,	1	-		- 1	4	1	Н	88	36 6	1	1111
		-			-	-				L	-		-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	,	-	

Table XII Showing the number of cases of notifiable disease notified during the last 9 years.

Disease	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
Smallpox. Diphtheria Scarlet fever Typhoid Paratyphoid Acute primary pneumonia Puerperal pyrexia Meningococcal infection Poliomyelitis (1)Paralytic (2) Non-paralytic Acute encephalitis Ophthalmia Neonatorum Dysentery Erysipelas Measles Whooping Cough Food poisoning	- 1 - 2 552	- 6 - 4 2 23 6 2 -	- 19 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 8 - 12 -	1 6 1 - 3 - 49 -	- 34 - 4 - 2 8 397 6 -	- 4 3 1 8 	13-1-435-	1 23 - 1 - 1 - 4 142 1	33 - 4 - 1 1 4

TUBERCULOSIS

The Blaenavon district is served by the chest clinic at the Park Buildings, Pontypool. Clinic sessions are now held on Tuesday and Thursday of each week. The Thursday sessions are provided for the contacts of tuberculous cases and skin testing, clinical and xray examinations are carried out. Patients requiring pneumothorax refills have to attend the chest clinic at Newport.

The homes of all newly notified cases are visited by the Medical Officer of Health and an environmental report made to the Chest Physician and the County Medical Officer of Health. Where necessary representation is made to the Housing Authority when rehousing is essential for the well-being of the patient or to prevent spread of infection. Recommendations are also made to the Chest Physician on occasions calling for priority admission to hospital or sanatorium when the home conditions are unsatisfactory. Arrangements are made for the household and other contacts to attend the chest clinic for xray. The child contacts are skin tested and xrayed if necessary. Advice is also given to patients about tuberculosis allowances and how they can be obtained. A liberal supply of disinfectant for use in sputum receptacles and in connection with laundry is available to all tuberculous patients at the Public Health Department. Suitable literature for the tuberculous patient is also distributed to aid in preventing spread of infection. Terminal disinfection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector as required.

The facility for mantoux testing of children is available at the infant welfare clinic in the district and all parents should take advantage of this service for children up to 5 years of age. It is anticipated that in the near future mantoux testing will be available in the schools for the new entrants and eventually for the older age groups. Mantoux testing has already been made available for the school leavers.

Table XIII Showing the new cases of tuberculosis notified, and the deaths due to tuberculosis during 1952, analysed in age and sex groups, and by type of disease.

Age		New Case	s		D	eaths		
Groups	Pul	nonary	Non-pi	ulmonary	Pulm	onary	Non-p	ulmonary
years	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
5 -15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	: -
15-20	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
35-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
55-65	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 plus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	8	1	-	1	2	-	-

The death rates from tuberculosis for this district for 1952 were as follows:-

(Rates for 1951 are in parentheses)

- (a) Tuberculosis (all forms) 0.31 per 1,000 population (Nil)
- (b) Pulmonary tuberculosis 0.31 per 1,000 population (Nil)
- (c) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis Nil per 1,000 population (Nil)

Table XIV Showing the number of cases of tuberculosis remaining on the tuberculosis register of the Blaenavon Urban District at 31.12.52.

Male	s	Fema	les	
Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
33	14	46	4	97

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Table VV Stowing the yearly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for males and females, and the yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis since 1942.

r		losis											
Total of Tearly deaths	from all	forms of tuberculosis	0.	Φ	00	80	4	14	6	60	4	1	23
00	Non-pulmonary	Females	1	1	1	ы	1	63	t.	1	1	1	1
from tub	Non-p	Males	1	٦	1	7	П	ю	гH	,	1	1	1
y deaths 1	Fulmonary	Females	വ	9	23	4	4	9	S	03		1	03
Yearl	Fulm	Males	ы	7	20	1	7	63	20	-	4	1	Ч
Total yearly notifications	of pulmonary &	non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	14	25	682	17	63	17	16	17	7	80	12
Yearly notifications of tuberculosis	monary	Females	03	1	23	1	,	1	7	1	1	1	ï
ions of t	Non-pulmonary	Males	67	10	1	н	D.	Q	1	1	02	1	1
notificat	Pulmonary	Females	9	13	17	00	2	6	9	80	ю	63	00
Yearly	Puln	Males	4	8	8	7	0,1	19	0	89	c)	D	ы
		Iear	1948	1943	1844	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1921	1932

Table XVI Showing the occupations of new cases of tuberculosis in males notified during 1952.

Occupation	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
Assistant Surveyor	1	-	1
Electrical Engineer	1		1
Colliery Surface Worker	-	1	1
Disabled Miner.	1	-	1
Totals	3	1	4

Table XVII Showing the occupations of new cases of tuberculosis in females notified during 1952.

Occupation	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
Housewife	3	-	3
Upholstress	1	-	1
School child	1	-	1
Baby (under 1 year)	1	-	1
Hairdresser	1	-	1
Unemployed	1	-	1
Totals	8	-	8

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Table XVIII Showing the monthly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for the year 1952.

	Pul	monary	Non-		
Month	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
January February March April May June July August September October November December	1	4 4	1	1111111111	2 15 4 1
Totals	3	8	9	-	12

Table XIX Showing the admissions and discharges to Institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis during 1952.

		sions	Discharges	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
St. Woolos	1	2	-	1
Chepstow Annexe	2	-	-	-
Cefn Mably	-	2	-	1
Sully	-	-	2	
Kingston Hospital Haverfordwest.	-	1	-	-
Llanwyfan, Nr. Denbigh		1	-	-
N.Wales Sanatorium, Denbigh.	-		-	1
Talgarth	2	-	-	-
Totals	5	6	2	3

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Table XX Showing the notification rates and the death rates per 1,000 population for tuberculosis for this district since 1938.

Year	Notificati 1,000 po	on rates per pulation.	Death rates per 1,000 population	
-001	Pulmonary Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952	2.93 3.02 2.11 2.62 1.00 2.14 2.54 1.55 1.74 1.54 1.51 1.61 .50 .82 1.14	.30 .68 .48 .09 .40 .41 .41 .21 .51 .20 .10 .10	.51 .59 .67 .47 .79 .71 .61 .50 .51 .92 .81 .30 .40	.00 .00 .10 .00 .10 .10 .21 .50 .20 .51 .10 .00

Fublic Health (Prevention of tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No action was necessary under the above regulations in respect of tuberculous employees in the milk trade during the year

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		1	

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Mass radiography - general population survey - April, 1952.

Arrangements were made for a 10 day visit by a mobile unit of the Mass Radiography Service of the Welsh Regional Hospital Board during April. The unit was located in the centre of the town at the HQ. Building of the Fire Service in Lion Square. This is the second visit of a mobile unit to this district, the previous visit was in May 1950. The attendance during the survey was 2,017 (1,060 males and 957 females) which was about 200 less than at the previous survey in 1950.

Table XXI gives a detailed analysis of the survey and table XXII gives a further analysis of sub-heading (c) in the former table.

It will be seen that one case of definite pulmonary tuberculosis came to light at the time of the survey and that 32 cases were referred to the chest clinic for detailed investigation. Five of these cases were eventually notified as definite cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and, in addition, a child contact of one of these cases was also discovered to have notifiable pulmonary tuberculosis. All of these cases had gained admission to hospital or sanatorium for treatment before the close of the year. The ages of these discovered (all females) were as follows - 45,34,25,24,17 and 6 years. The case discovered as a contact of one of these adult cases was a female child aged 9 months. These discoveries arouse speculation as to the number of cases which might have been discovered, and now remain undiscovered, had the 5,000 or more other persons in the district availed themselves of this opportunity of a chest xray, but failed to do so. Until such time as the general public attain a 100% attendance during these periodic mass radiography surveys the fight against tuberculosis is going to be impeded and the day when this disease can be wiped out put more and more into the distant future.

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DETAILS OF MASS FADIOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF BLAEMAVON GENERAL PURULATION - APRIL 1952.

Table XXI - Analysis in age groups.

1		1	1		
H.	957	62	Н	17	44
160 % over TOTAL	1,060	208	1	15	193
over F.	52	અ	1	03	6/3
60 &c	128	28	1	4	54
59 F.	246	23	1	7	14
45 -	348	106	1	æ	97
- 44 F	189	9	1	Н	ເດ
35 - M.	205	27	1	1	27
	217	1.7	1	4	13
N. F.	808	14	1	N	12
24	242	14	Ŧ	ю	10
15 -	164	10	1	'	3
Under 15	Ħ	1	1	1	1
Unde M.	4	1	1	1	1
CALCA TOTAL	8,017	870 or 1.5.39%	1 or 0.05%	32 or 1.59%	227 or 11,75
	Total number of persons examined. Normal and abnormal.	Total number found to be abnormal.	Classification of abnormal cases:- (a)Definite pulmonary tuberculosis.	(b) Needing further observation for pulmonary tuberculosis.	(c) Other abnormalities 227 of the chest.

1			
	6.0		
	1.18		
			3
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Survey of Blaenavon General Population, April 1952. Table XXII

Details of Other Abnormalities

	Total	Males	Females
Pneumoconiosis	143	143	-
Healed Primary P.T.	33	17	16
Healed Post Primary P.T.	9	3	6
Bony Abnormality	14	6	8
Bronchitis & Emphysema	13	12	1
Acquired Heart Disease	11	4	7
Pleural Thickening	6	5	1
Pulmonary Fibrosis	3	1	2
Neoplasm	2	2	-
Bronchiectasis	1	. m. m. n = "	1
Abnormality of Diaphragm	1	- 100	1
Thyroid	1	-	1 9
Total	237	193	44

MISCELLANEOUS.

National Health Service Act, 1946.

The local health services under Part III of the above Act are provided for this district by the Monmouthshire County Council, which is the Local Health Authority.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was necessary under the provision of Section 47 of the above Act for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Water Supply

The year under review saw no change in the water supply to the district and the observations in this respect in my Annual Report for 1949 are still applicable.

Public Swimming Baths

This matter was dealt with in my Annual Report for 1949.

Disposal of house and trade refuse.

A controlled system of tipping is again advocated.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Food and Drugs Authority for this district is the Monmouthshire County Council.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

The following tables indicate the inspections made of factories in the district during the year in connection with the maintenance of provisions for healthy working conditions.

Conditions were found to be generally satisfactory and, where defects were found, remedial action was promptly undertaken.

Table XXIII Showing the number of factories and inspections thereof carried out during 1952.

AND THE PARTY OF T	Number	Number of		Occupiers
Premises	on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	rosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 enforced by Local Authority.		48	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A.	32	68	1	-
(3) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers' premises.	1	4	-	-
Total	41	120	1	-

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Table XXIV Showing the defects found in factories and action taken.

	NUMBER OF		Referred	Number
	Found	Remedied	by H. I. Inspector	of pros- ecutions
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (3.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	-			
(a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	ī	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act(not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-
	-			
Total	Nil	Nil	1	Nil .

HOUSING.

The urgent need for new houses still remains the greatest problem in this district and will occupy the attention of the Local Authority for many years to come. That this need is present is only too evident and does not require further elaboration.

The following tables show the progress made in the erection of new houses during 1952.

Table XXV Showing the number of houses owned by this Authority on 31.12. 52.

		Non-tradit- ional houses.	Traditional houses	Total
No. of houses owned by L. A. at 31.12. '52.	50	58	284	392
No. of houses in course of erection by L.A. on 31.12.'52.	-	26	-	26
No. of houses for which sanction has been given but which had not been commenced on 31.12. 52.	-	40	-	40

Table XXVI Showing the number of houses erected during 1952 by the L.A. and by private enterprise.

	Temp Pre-fabs.	Non-traditional houses	Traditional houses
By Local Authority	-	8	-
By Frivate enterprise	-	-	-
Total	-	8	-

No. of houses under construction by private enterprise but not completed on 31.12.'52:- Nil.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Particulars of complaints received, notices served and the result of action taken under the Public Health Act, Housing Act, etc., by the Sanitary Inspector.

Complaints received and investigations made.	
Number of complaints received re defects & nuisances Number of complaints investigated	44 44
Number of nuisances and defects found through insp- action of district	46
Public Health Act Notices	
Informal notices served re defects and nuisances Informal notices complied with	88 61
Statutory notices served re defects and nuisances Statutory notices complied with	63 61
Statutory notices re-served in respect of inadequate closet accommodation (Section 44 F.H. Act) Statutory notices complied with	24
Statutory notices served re defective closet accommodation (Section 45 T.H.Act) Statutory notices complied with	6
Housing Act Notices	
Informal notices served under Housing Act, 1936 Informal notices complied with	0
Formal notices served under Housing Act Formal notices complied with	0
Foods & Drugs Act	
Informal notices served under Foods & Drugs Act Informal notices complied with	0
Formal notices served under Foods & Drugs Act Formal notices complied with	0
Factories Act Notices	
Informal notices served under Factories Act Informal notices complied with	i
Formal notices served under Factories Act Formal notices complied with .	0
Shops Act Notices Served	
Informal notices served under Shops Act (health & comfort) Informal notices complied with	1
Formal notices served under Shops Act Formal notices complied with	0
Prevention of Damage by Tests Act	
Informal notices served Informal notices complied with	0
Formal notices served Formal notices complied with	0
Bye-law Notices	
Notices served re dumping of house refuse by house- holders and others	60

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Provision of Adequate Closet Accommodation for Dwelling-houses, Section 44, Jublic Health Act, 1936.

Although many difficulties have been encountered progress has again been made in respect of the provision of separate closet accommodation for every house in the area.

During the year under review twenty six houses previously sharing were provided with separate closets.

The position at the end of December (last) was that of the 168 houses which had up until 1950 been sharing with one or more other houses, 138 now have separate closet accommodation. There is also very good prospect that the thirty houses still sharing will, during the coming year, have separate accommodation provided for them.

In three cases where owners defaulted in complying with the Council's requirements legal proceedings were instituted before the Justices in accordance with the provisions of section 44, Jublic Health Act, 1936. In each of these cases an Order was made to provide adequate closet accommodation within a specified period and a fine of two pounds was inflicted upon each of the defaulters.

Milk and Ice-Cream Sampling.

Samples of milk, both raw and heat treated, were taken during the year and submitted to the Tublic Health Laboratory for examination. These samples of milk and ice-cream were found to be generally satisfactory and with a few exceptions conformed to the prescribed standards.

Food Inspection.

There is no slaughterhouse in the district and the whole of the meat supplied, with the exception of frozen and chilled, is from animals killed at a Ministry of Food slaughterhouse in an adjoining district. A full-time meat inspector is employed at the slaughterhouse and every effort is made to inspect adequately all the animals slaughtered.

Your sanitary inspector, who is a qualified meat inspector, visits the butchers' shops regularly and takes his turn on the rota at the slaughterhouse when the meat inspector is on holiday or off duty through other causes.

reiodical visits are also made by the sanitary inspector to the provision stores, fish, fruit and vegetable shops and other places where food is prepared and stored and every effort is made to see that the district's food supply is kept wholesome and uncontaminated by animals, rodents, insects etc.

During the year the following foodstuffs were surrendered and destroyed as being totally unfit for human comsumption:-

Tinned and bottled foods - 857
Bacon - 16 lbs
Sausages - 41 lbs
Cooked ham (8 large tins) - 112 lbs
Fish - 154 lbs

RODENT CONTROL.

Rodent Control has now become an important branch of public health work and much attention has been given to it during the year by your Rodent Officer, and the full time Rodent Operative who is employed by the Council to carry out this work.

In addition to dealing with complaints from the owners and occupiers of premises who report the presence of rats and mice, routine inspections of the various types of premises are carried out regularly by the rodent operative. These routine inspections have proved to be of inestimable value and have the advantage of preventing any big build-up of the rat and mouse population.

Warfarin, the new rodenticide has been used most successfully against rats in the area; it has many advantages over poison baiting and is safer to use. It has not, however, been possible to experiment with it on a large scale as there were no major or reservoir infestations anywhere in the district throughout the year.

Rodent Control at the local collieries, two of which are slopes or as they are sometimes called "slants", and the other a shaft, has again had special attention both on the surfaces and below ground. In this respect it is most pleasing to report that the officials of the National Coal Board in charge of the colliery undertakings are giving their fullest co-operation, and a report upon the work carried out in connection with rodent control in and around the collieries is submitted monthly to your rodent officer.

The banks of the river, the refuse tips and the sewers are kept under observation and treated when necessary. No claim is being made that the district is free from rats and mice, but it can be stated that every effort is made to keep them down to the lowest minimum.

Report for year ended 31st December, 1952.

	Type of Property				
	Local Auth- ority.	Dwelling Houses	-	All other (including Business Premises	Total
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	35	2,672	22	236	2,965
ll.Number of properties inspected by the	(a).2.	39	.	6	47
Local Authority during 1952 as a result of (a)notification (b)survey or otherwise	(b)24	2,426	24	107	2,581
111. Number of properties (under 11) found to	Major	-	.	-	
be infested by rats	Minor 15	46	-	5	66
1V.Number of premises (under 11) found to be seriously infested by mice.	1	3	-	5	9
V.Number of infested properties under 111 & 1V treated by the Local Authority.	16	49	-	10	75
V1. Number of notices served under Sec 4:- (1) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(2) Structural works i.e.proofing	-	-	-	-	
V11. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under section 4.	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-

Number of "block" control schemes carried outNil.

AND AND SHARE THE SPECIAL PROPERTY.

I wish to thank Mr. W. A. Curtis, the Council's Sanitary Inspector, for his very valuable assistance during the year and, at the same time, thank the other departments for their helpful co-operation.

I am, Yours obediently,

Medical Officer of Health.

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