BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

for the year 1954.

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.

April, 1955.

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Statistical Summary, 1954.

Area of district	4,613 acres
Rateable value (1.4.'54)	£34,119.
Estimated net product of 1d. rate (1954-55)	£121.9.5.53d.
Number of inhabited houses (1954)	2,849
Number of Council-owned houses(31.12.'54)	418
Number of Council houses built during 1954.	Nil
Population (estimated mid 1954)	9,580
Average number of persons per house.	3.4
Census population 1951 - (4,976 males and 4,803 females)	9,779
Census population, 1931 -(5,847 males and 5,229 females)	11,076
Number of live births.	105
Birth rate per 1,000 population.	10.9
Number of illegitimate births	4
Number of stillbirths	5
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population	.52
Number of deaths	112
Crude death rate (i.e.deaths per 1,000 population)	11.7
Number of infant deaths (i.e. deaths in infants under 1 yr.of age)	7
Infant mortality rate.	66.6
Number of maternal deaths	Nil
Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis.	Nil
Death rate per 1,000 population from pulmonary tuberculosis.	Nil
Deaths from cancer of the lungs and bronchi	2
Death rate per 1,000 population from cancer of the lungs and bronchi.	.21
Death rate per 1,000 population from cancer (all forms)	1.6
Percentage of the total deaths for 1954 due to cancer of the lungs and bronchi.	1.8%
Percentage of the total deaths for 1954 due to pulmonary tuberculosis.	Nil

Year	Births	Deaths
1946	169	122
1947	202	156
1948	173	116
1949	155	137
1950	150	144
1951	123	125
1952	129	137
1953	137	129
1954	105	112.

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman:- Councillor E.J. Davies, B.A., J.P.

Vice-Chairman:- Councillor D. W. Walker.

Central Ward Councillors

Councillor Miss A. M. Lewis, J.P.
R. A. Watkins.
D. W. Puddle.
H. T. Wathen.
M. Baker.
C. G. Parker.

East Ward Councillors.

Councillor D. W. Walker.
W. H. Taylor.
S. Banks.
T. J. Palser.
C. Evans.
A. Penhelog.

West Ward Councillors.

Councillor A. P. Griffiths.
R. J. Morris, B.A.
J. Peters.
E. J. Davies, B.A.
A. J. Bowen.
R. H. Jenkins.

The Ordinary meeting is held on the last Wednesday in the month at 6 p.m.

The Housing Committee meet on the first Wednesday in the month.

The General Purposes Committee meet on the second Wednesday in the month.

The Finance Committee meet on the third Wednesday in the month.

The Officers' monthly reports are taken at the monthly Council meeting.

Officers of the Council:-

Clerk of the Council and Chief Financial Officer.	I. G. Gwyn Thomas, F.C.I.S., F.A.C.C.A.
Deputy Clerk of the Council.	T. A. George, A.C.I.S.
Surveyor & Waterworks Engineer.	G. C. E. Thomas, J.P.
Medical Officer of Health.	F.J. Hallinan, M.B.E.(Mil.), M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector.	W.A. Curtis, M.R.S.I.,M.S.I.A. (Deceased August, 1954) D. H. Cowles, M.R.San.I. (appointed 1st November,1954)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLAENAVON
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1954.

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

Mr. Chairman, Miss Lewis & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the state of the public health of the district for the year 1954, which has been compiled in accordance with Articles 6(3) and 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and as directed by the Welsh Board of Health in their circular 28/54 (Wales) dated 15th December, 1954.

General Comment.

The year 1954 witnessed a continued fall in the birth rate for the district and the live births failed to replace the deaths. This has been the general trend over recent years in this district.

The notifiable infectious diseases were conspicuously absent and the small number of notifications of tuberculosis is to be welcomed. There were no deaths assigned to any form of tuberculosis which represents a big improvement in this respect over previous years and reflects the advances made in the treatment of this condition. This district had a visit from a mobile unit of the Mass Radiography Service during the year and some 1,880 persons (1,047 males and 833 females) took advantage of the opportunity to have a chest xray. It is regretted that more of the general public do not avail themselves of this facility during these visits, as it is only by discovering and treating the undiagnosed cases in the community that any great progress can be made in wiping out this disease.

The greatest problem confronting this Authority from a public health aspect is the provision of more houses to replace the many unfit ones which are in many cases also very overcrowded.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Rgeistrar General's estimate of the population at mid 1954 was 9,580.

1921 Census population - 12,469 (6,594 males and 5,875 females)
1931 Census population - 11,076 (5,847 males and 5,229 females)
1951 Census population.- 9,779 (4,976 males and 4,803 females)

Elevations above sea level.

St. Peter's Church	1,035 feet.
No. 4 Reservoir	1,319 feet.
Penffordgoch	1,573 feet.

Estimated populations - mid 1954 - adjacent Urban Districts.

Abergavenny	M.B.	9,140	Abercarn	U.D.	18,460	Abertillery	U.D.	27,040
Bedwellty	U.D.	28,310	Cwmbran	U.D.	15,630	Ebbw Vale	U.D.	28,570
Monmouth	M.B.	5,740	Tredegar	U.D.	20,250	Pontypool	U.D.	42,030

The Blaenavon Urban District stands at the head of the Eastern Valley of Monmouthshire and, despite its location, is moderately well served by way of road and rail transport.

Rainfall.

The district's rainfall for the year was recorded at No. 2 Reservoir and supplied by the Council's Surveyor, Mr. G.C.E. Thomas, J.P.

January	2.40	ins	July	2.53	ins
February	4.81	"	August	5.10	"
March	5.65	"	September	5.65	"
April	0.91	"	October	7.98	"
May	3.75	"	November	13.34	"
June.	8.26	"	December.	4.80	"

Total 65.18 inches.

The districts rainfall during the past 10 years was as follows:-

1945	51.15	ins	1950	56.89	ins
1946	67.78	"	1951	67.28	"
1947	47.74	"	1952	54.69	"
1948	61.72	"	1953	47.21	"
1949	50.90	"	1954	65.18	"

VITAL STATISTICS.

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

	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Number of live births	105	137	129	123	150	155	173	202	169
Estimated mid-year population.	9,580	9,589	9,628	9,719	9,931	9,975	9,922	9,764	9,79[illegible]
Birth rate per 1,000 population.	10.9	14.3	13.4	12.7	15.0	15.5	17.4	20.6	17.3

There were 105 live births allocated to the district for the year and comprised 57 males and 48 females. There were 4 (2 males and 2 females) illegitimate births. The number of births registered continues to fall and the figure is 32 lower than in 1953.

The number of live births for the year was exceeded by the number of deaths by 7.

There were 5 (1 male and 4 females) stillbirths during the year and all were of legitimate birth. The stillbirth rate per 1,000 of the population was 0.52 while the rate for the Administrative County of Monmouthshire was 0.47.

Table X shows the comparative birth rates.

A comparison may be made between the local birth rate for the year with that for England and Wales if the local rate is multiplied by the comparability factor provided by the Registrar General, which is 1.06.

Table II Showing the births registered in and allocated to this district for 1954 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable births.

Month	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly births.
January	1	2	3)	
February	4	-	4)	11
March	4	-	4)	
April	2	2	4)	
May	3	2	5)	10
June	-	1	1)	
July	2	2	4)	
August	4	1	5)	13
September	1	3	4)	
October	3	3	6)	
November	2	1	3)	13
December.	1	3	4)	
Totals	27	20	47	47
Inward transferable births	30	28	58	
Grand totals for the year 1954	57	48	105	

Comparative birth rates - 1954.

Blaenavon Urban District - 10.9
Monmouthshire Administrative County - 16.3
England and Wales - 15.2

Deaths.

Table III Showing the yearly number of deaths, estimated mid-year populations, and the death rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1946.

	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
Number of deaths	112	129	137	125	144	139	116	156	122
Estimated mid-year population.	9,580	9,589	9,628	9,719	9,981	9,975	9,922	9,764	9,797
Death rate per 1,000 population.	11.7	13.5	14.2	12.9	14.4	13.7	11.7	15.8	12.5

There were 112 deaths (64 males and 48 females) assigned to the district for 1954, which was 17 less than in 1953.

The allocation of these 112 deaths to the various causes is shown in table V.

There were no maternal deaths caused by childbirth, pregnancy or abortion. The maternal mortality rate for the Administrative County of Monmouthshire for the year was 1.49 per 1,000 total births (live and still).

No deaths were recorded as a result of any form of tuberculosis.

All forms of cancer claimed 15 deaths (5 males and 10 females) or 13% of the total deaths for the year. Cancer of the lungs claimed 2 deaths (2 males) and represents 1.8% of the total deaths.

Diseases of the heart and blood vessels caused 49 deaths (27 males and 22 females) and represented 43.8% of the total deaths.

Motor vehicle accidents claimed 2 deaths, both males.

The local death rate can be compared with that for England and Wales if the local rate is first multiplied by the comparability factor provided by the Registrar General, which is 1.05.

Table IV Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1954, according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable deaths.

Month	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly Deaths.
January	4	5	9)	
February,	8	3	11)	23
March	2	1	3)	
April	7	2	9)	
May	6	6	12)	26
June	1	4	5)	
July	3	4	7)	
August	6	4	10)	21
September	2	2	4)	
October	6	3	9)	
November	3	1	4)	27
December	7	7	14)	
Totals	55	42	97	97
Inward transferable deaths	9	6	15	
Grand total for 1954	64	48	112	

Comparative death rates - 1954

Blaenavon Urban District - 11.7
Monmouthshire Administrative County - 11.6
England and Wales - 11.3

Table X Showing the deaths from all causes, infant deaths, births and stillbirths allocated to this district for 1954.

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 infectious and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm. stomach.	-	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	2	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	-	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	2	4
15. Leukaemia and aleukaemia.	1	1
16. Diabetes.	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system.	7	6
18. Coronary disease, angina.	4	3
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	2	-
20. Other heart disease.	9	11
21. Other circulatory disease.	5	2
22. Influenza.	-	-
23. Pneumonia.	2	-
24. Bronchitis.	10	4
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system.	1	-
26. Ulcer of stomach & duodenum.	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.	-	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.	4	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.	-	1
32. Other defined & ill defined diseases.	11	8
33. Motor vehicle accidents.	2	-
34. All other accidents.	1	-
35. Suicide.	1	-
36. Homicide and operations of war.	-	-
Total all causes	64	48
Deaths in infants under 1 year of age	3	4
Legitimate	3	4
Illegitimate	-	-
Total births:-	57	48
Legitimate	55	46
Illegitimate	2	2
Stillbirths:-	1	4
Legitimate	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-

Estimated population mid 1954 - 9,580

Comparability factors:-

Births	Deaths
1.06	1.05

Table VI Showing the number of inquests during 1954 on persons belonging to this district and the circumstances of the deaths.

Circumstances of death	Male	Female	Total.
Cardiac failure	1	-	1
Accident on open-cast mining site	1	-	1
Chronic bronchitis and pneumoconiosis	2	-	2
Rheumatic heart disease and pneumoconiosis	1	-	1
Rheumatic carditis.	1	-	1
Infective obstructive oedema of glottis	1	-	1
Accidents on the road (Motor cycle pillion rider)	2	-	2
Cardiac failure and hypertension.	1	-	1
Suicide.	1	-	1
Total	11	-	11

The accident on the open-cast mining site involved a man aged 45 years.

The two fatal accidents involving motor cycle pillion riders relate to two young males aged 17 years and 22 years.

The three deaths in which pneumoconiosis was mentioned as a contributory factor occurred in males aged 61 years, 62 years and 69 years.

Infant Mortality.

Table VII Showing the number of infant deaths, live births, etc., since 1946 in this district.

	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946
No.of deaths in infants under 1yr.	7	5	3	6	2	8	8	7	11
No.of live births.	105	137	129	123	150	155	173	202	169
Infant mortality rate.	66.6	36.5	23.3	48.8	13.3	51.6	46.2	34.6	65.1

There were 7 infant deaths during the year and of these deaths 5 occurred in hospital and 2 at home.

Six of the deaths were neo-natal and due to causes over which little control can be exercised.

Table VIII Showing the infant deaths assigned to the district for 1954 by cause and in age groups.

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1year.
Prematurity (twin birth)	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Asphyxia livida	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Influenzal meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pulmonary atelectasis	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
All causes	6	-	-	-	6	-	-	1	-	7

Table IX Showing the infant mortality rates for England and Wales, etc., for 1954,1953,1952,1951,1950.

Year	England & Wales	160 Co.Boro's & Great Towns including London.	160 smaller Towns (resident pop. 25-50,000 at 1951 census).	Administrative County of Monmouthshire	Blaenavon U.D.
1950	29.8	33.8	29.4	39.8	13.3
1951	29.6	33.9	27.6	43.1	48.8
1952	27.6	31.2	25.8	33.9	23.3
1953	26.8	30.8	24.3	32.6	36.5
1954	25.5	29.2	23.8	39.7	66.6

Table X Comparison of the vital statistics for England and Wales, etc., the Administrative County of Monmouthshire, Pontypool U.D. and Blaenavon U.D. for the years 1951, 1952, 1953 and 1954.

	Birth rate per 1,000 population								Death rates per 1,000 population.				Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 yr per 1,000 population).			
	live births	still births	live births	still births	live births	still births	live births	still births								
	1954	1954	1953	1953	1952	1952	1951	1951	1954	1953	1952	1951	1954	1953	1952	1951
England & Wales	15.2	0.34	15.5	0.35	15.3	0.35	15.5	0.36	11.3	11.4	11.3	12.5	25.5	26.8	27.6	29.6
160 Co.Boro's & Great Towns (including London)	16.8	0.44	17.0	0.43	16.9	0.43	17.3	0.45	12.1	12.2	12.1	13.4	29.2	30.8	31.2	33.9
160 Smaller Towns (Resident pop. 25-50,00) at 1951 census	15.4	0.35	15.7	0.34	15.5	0.36	16.7	0.38	11.3	11.3	11.2	12.5	23.8	24.3	25.8	27.6
Administrative Co. of Monmouthshire.	16.3	0.47	16.8	0.47	17.2	0.47	16.5	0.49	11.6	11.6	11.5	13.4	39.7	32.7	33.9	43.1
Pontypool U.D.	14.9	0.33	16.1	0.31	16.5	0.59	16.4	0.49	11.4	11.0	12.0	13.4	49.3	33.7	27.2	43.0
Blaenavon U.D.	10.9	0.52	14.3	0.21	13.4	0.31	12.7	0.82	11.7	13.5	14.2	12.9	66.6	36.5	23.3	48.8

Notifiable diseases (excluding tuberculosis).

There were no notifications of notifiable disease received during the year apart from one case of puerperal pyrexia and three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

The number of anti-diphtheria immunisations done in the Council's district during 1954 was as follows:-

	Age at date of primary injection (as regards A) or of reinforcing injection (as regards B)							
	Under 1yr	1 yr.	2 yrs	3 yrs	4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs	Total
A No.of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the Council's district during the year ended 31.12.'54.	76	42	7	4	4	15	-	148
B No.of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) dose subsequent to primary immunisation in the year ended 31.12.'54.	-	-	-	-	16	58	-	73

The success of the campaign against diphtheria depends on the maintenance of a high level of immunisation in the child population and there should, therefore, be no relaxation on the part of parents in having their children protected.

Vaccination against small-pox.

The number of persons vaccinated against small-pox in the Council's district during 1954 was as follows:-

Age at date of vaccination.	Under 1 yr	1 yr.	2-4 yrs	5-14 yrs	15 plus yrs	Total
Number vaccinated	42	5	9	2	-	58
Number revaccinated.	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total	42	5	9	2	1	59

Table X1 Showing the notifiable diseases notified in the district during 1954 analysed in age and sex groups and giving the admissions to hospital. (tuberculosis excluded).

Disease	Under 1yr.		1 - 2 yrs		2 - 3 yrs		3 - 4 yrs		4 - 5 yrs		5 - 10 yrs		10 - 15 yrs		15 - 20 yrs		20 - 35 yrs		35 - 45 yrs		45 - 65 yrs		65yrs & upwards		All Ages		Tot	Cases admitted to hospital
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Ac.primary and influenzal pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis:-																												
paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1

Table XII Showing the number of cases of notifiable disease notified yearly since 1944 (tuberculosis excluded).

Disease	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944.
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	3
Measles	-	58	35	236	1	-	397	8	3	142	4
Scarlet fever	-	-	1	6	9	30	34	4	3	23	3
Whooping Cough	-	3	22	2	2	49	6	-	5	1	-
Puerperal pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Acute primary and influenzal pneumonia.	-	3	2	4	-	2	4	-	1	1	4
Erysipelas.	-	2	5	2	8	3	8	1	4	4	1
Food poisoning.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections.	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	1
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis											
(a) paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	3	-	-	-
(b) non-paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Tuberculosis.

The district is served by the Chest Clinic situated at the Park Buildings, Pontypool, where two whole-day clinics are held each week. The Tuesday session is allocated to new cases and revisits by old cases and the Thursday session is set aside for the examination of contacts and general practitioners' patients referred for chest xray.

The newly notified cases are visited in their homes by the Medical Officer of Health upon the receipt of formal notification of the presence of tuberculosis and a full environmental enquiry is made, after which a report is submitted to the Chest Physician and the County Medical Officer. When rehousing is called for a suitable recommendation is made to the Local Housing Authority.

A supply of disinfectant in suitable containers is available through the Public Health Department for use in the homes of the tuberculous in connection with sputum receptacles, laundry, etc. Disinfections are carried out in the homes of the tuberculous when such action is required.

The district's infant welfare clinic offers facilities for the skin-testing of all children up to the age of 5 years and many parents avail themselves of this valuable service. Children are also given the opportunity to be skin-tested on entry to school and again at the leaver stage. Mass xray is offered to those children who are found to have a positive skin test at the school-leaver stage.

Arrangements were made for a visit by a mass radiography unit from 17.5.'54 to 25.5.'54, and a total of 1,880 persons were xrayed. This general population survey showed up one case of active pulmonary tuberculosis in a female child in the under 15 year age group. The second case - a female in the 25 to 34 year age group - was a case already on the tuberculosis register of the district. It is a fact that the general public are still very slow to take advantage of a visit of a mass radiography unit despite adequate publicity and encouragement.

Table XIII Showing the new cases of tuberculosis notified and the deaths due to tuberculosis during 1954, analysed in age and sex groups and by type of disease.

Age groups in years	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 plus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	2	-	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

In addition to the above notifications there was one inward transfer of a female case of pulmonary tuberculosis.

The death rates for tuberculosis for this district for 1954 were as follows:-

(Rates for 1953 are in parenthesis)

(a) Tuberculosis (all forms) - Nil per 1,000 population (1.10)
(b) Pulmonary tuberculosis - Nil per 1,000 population (0.10)
(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 this district at 31.12.'54.

Males		Females		Total
Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	
28	12	44	5	89

Table XV Showing the yearly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for males and females, and the yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis since 1942

Year	Yearly notifications of tuberculosis				Total yearly notifications of pulmonary & non-pulmonary tuberculosis	Yearly deaths from tuberculosis				Total yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis.
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Male	Female		Male	Female	Male	Female	
1942	4	6	2	2	14	3	5	-	1	9
1943	8	13	3	1	25	1	6	1	-	8
1944	8	17	1	3	29	3	3	1	1	8
1945	7	8	1	1	17	-	4	1	3	8
1946	10	7	5	-	22	1	4	1	1	7
1947	6	9	2	-	17	3	6	3	2	14
1948	9	3	-	1	16	3	5	1	-	9
1949	8	8	1	-	17	1	2	-	-	3
1950	2	3	2	-	7	4	-	-	-	4
1951	5	3	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-
1952	3	8	1	-	12	1	2	-	-	3
1953	2	6	1	1	10	1	-	-	-	1
1954	1	2	-	-	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Table XVI. Showing the occupations of new cases of tuberculosis in males notified during 1954.

Occupation	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
Pre-school age	1	-	1
Total	1	-	1

Table XVII. Showing the occupations of the new cases of tuberculosis in females notified during 1954.

Occupation	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonery	Total
Domestic	1	-	1
Schoolgirl	1	-	1
Total	2	-	2

Table XVIII Showing the monthly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for the year 1954. (Corrected for diagnosis).

Month	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
January	-	-	-	-	-
February	-	-	-	-	-
March	-	-	-	-	-
April	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-
June	1	2	-	-	3
July	-	-	-	-	-
August	-	-	-	-	-
September	-	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-	-
November	-	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	2	-	-	3

Table XIX Showing the admissions to and discharges from institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis during 1954.

Institution	Admissions		Discharges	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Cefn Mably	1	3	1	4
Sully	1	2	1	4
Talgarth	1	-	-	-
Chepstow	-	-	2	-
Llangwyfan, N.Wales	-	-	-	1
Benenden, Kent.	-	1	-	-
Total	3	6	4	9

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

Year	Notification rates per 1,000 population		Death rates per per 1,000 population	
	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
1938	2.93	0.30	.51	.00
1939	3.02	.68	.59	.00
1940	2.11	.48	.67	.10
1941	2.62	.09	.47	.00
1942	1.00	.40	.79	.10
1943	2.14	.41	.71	.10
1944	2.54	.41	.61	.21
1945	1.55	.21	.50	.50
1946	1.74	.51	.51	.20
1947	1.54	.20	.92	.51
1948	1.51	.10	.81	.10
1949	1.61	.10	.30	.00
1950	.50	.20	.40	.00
1951	.82	.00	.00	.00
1952	1.14	.10	.31	.00
1953	.83	.21	.10	.00
1954	.31	Nil	Nil	Nil

The death rates per 1,000 population for tuberculosis for England and Wales etc., for 1954.

England & Wales.	160 Co.Boro's and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (resident pop. 25-50,00 at 1951 census.
.16	.20	.17

Table XXI Details of Mass radiography survey of the general population and school leavers carried out from 17.5.'54 to 25.5.'54.

	Grand Total	Under 15yrs		15 - 24yrs		25 - 34yrs		35 - 44yrs		45 - 59yrs		60 plus yrs		Totals	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total number examined	1,880	45	35	125	195	192	173	180	163	373	208	132	59	1047	833
Number found to be abnormal	112 or 5.96%	-	1	-	2	4	7	4	3	46	6	36	3	90	22
Classification of abnormal cases (1) Pulmonary tuberculosis	2 or 0.11%	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
(2) Requiring further observation	3 or 0.16%	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2
(3) Other abnormalities of the chest.	107 or 5.69%	-	-	-	2	3	5	4	3	46	5	36	3	89	18

Table XXII Details of the sub-division "other abnormalities of the chest" shown in table XXI.

	Males	Females	Total
Healed primary pulmonary tuberculosis	1	4	5
Healed post primary pulmonary tuberculosis	4	3	7
Pulmonary fibrosis	2	2	4
Bronchiectasis	-	1	1
Bronchitis and emphysema	9	1	10
Acquired cardiovascular disease	-	4	4
Pneumoconiosis:-			
Stage I	16	-	16
Stage II	41	-	41
Stage III	14	-	14
Bony abnormality	2	3	5
Total	89	18	107

The survey revealed one new case of pulmonary tuberculosis in a female school leaver just under the age of 15 years. The second case was that of a female in the age group 25 - 34 years who was already known and on the tuberculosis register for the district.

Census 1951.

The following details have been extracted from the Registrar General's County Report on the 1951 census, which was published during 1954.

Table XXIII Details of acreage, population and dwellings for the Blaenavon U.D. as at the 1951 census.

Administrative Area	Acreage (land & inland water)	Population				Persons per acre	Private households 1951		
		1931	1951				Private households	Population in private households	Structurally separate dwellings occupied
		Persons	Persons	Males	Females				
Blaenavon U.D.	4,613	11,076	9,779	4,976	4,803	2.1	2,971	9,750	2,787
Wards:-									
Central	425	3,933	3,189	1,618	1,571	7.5	997	3,160	913
East	1,331	3,997	3,856	1,943	1,913	2.9	1,154	3,856	1,101
West	2,857	3,146	2,734	1,415	1,319	1.0	800	2,734	773

Table XXIV Details of the district's population in age and sex groups at the 1951 census.

Age at last birthday	Total population	
	Males	Females
0 - 4	384	406
5 - 9	414	371
10-14	348	290
15-19	289	302
20-24	317	299
25-29	368	377
30-34	345	339
35-39	316	305
40-44	410	336
45-49	403	367
50-54	357	354
55-59	323	309
60-64	248	244
65-69	171	194
70-74	138	151
75-79	97	95
80-84	36	46
85-89	10	15
90-94	1	2
95 and over	1	1
Total	4,976	4,803

Table XXV Distribution by marital condition, age and sex ratios for the Monmouthshire (A.C. with associated C.B.), County Borough, Municipal Boroughs and Urban Districts.

Administrative Area	Percentage distribution of population					Sex ratio (Females per 1,000 males)
	By marital Condition			By age		
	Single	Married	Widowed & Divorced.	0 - 4	65 and over.	
Monmouthshire A.C with associated C.B.	42.5	50.4	7.1	9.0	10.0	1,015
Newport C.B.	42.4	50.3	7.3	9.0	9.5	1,054
Administrative Co.	42.5	50.4	7.1	9.0	10.2	1,002
Municipal Boro's and U.D.'s.	42.3	50.6	7.1	9.1	9.9	1,001
Abercarn	42.3	50.6	7.1	9.4	9.4	986
Abergavenny M.B.	41.3	50.5	8.2	8.6	12.1	1,136
Abertillery	41.3	51.5	7.2	8.7	10.2	984
Bedwas and Machan	42.7	50.1	7.2	9.5	9.3	1,017
Bedwellty.	46.0	47.6	6.4	10.7	8.1	986
Blaenavon	40.5	51.6	7.9	8.1	9.8	965
Caerleon	45.2	47.9	6.9	9.6	10.7	1,054
Chepstow	44.7	47.8	7.5	8.7	12.0	960
Cwmbran	41.5	52.0	6.5	9.3	9.5	1,008
Ebbw Vale.	42.3	50.9	6.8	8.6	9.4	984
Monmouth M.B.	42.3	49.5	8.2	8.2	13.2	1,186
Mynyddislwyn	44.0	49.9	6.1	10.7	8.6	971
Nantyglo & Blaina	42.5	49.7	7.8	8.8	10.8	959
Pontypool	40.6	52.5	6.9	8.6	10.1	1,010
Rhymney	44.4	47.9	7.7	8.9	9.9	980
Risca	39.2	53.5	7.3	8.6	10.5	1,022
Tredegar	42.7	50.0	7.3	9.5	10.0	1,003
Usk	44.1	48.5	7.4	8.7	11.4	1,026
Aggregate of Rural Districts.	43.9	49.1	7.0	8.2	12.1	1,012

Table XXVI Census populations (1921 - 1951) for the Administrative County, County Borough, Municipal Boroughs, Urban and Rural Districts.

Administrative Area.	Population				
	1921	1931	1951		
	Persons	Persons	Persons	Males	Females
MONMOUTHSHIRE (A.C. with associated C.B.)	449,547	431,610	425,115	210,997	214,118
Newport C.B.	94,384	98,447	105,547	51,383	54,164
Admin.County	355,163	333,163	319,568	159,614	159,954
Municipal Boroughs & Urban Districts.	312,709	292,562	275,191	137,553	137,638
Abercarn	20,296	20,726	18,749	9,440	9,309
Abergavenny M.B.	9,224	8,813	8,848	4,142	4,706
Abertillery	38,753	31,755	27,620	13,924	13,696
Bedwas & Machan	8,685	9,364	8,718	4,323	4,395
Bedwellty.	32,078	30,970	28,830	14,517	14,313
Blaenavon	12,469	11,076	9,779	4,976	4,803
Caerleon	3,168	3,314	4,709	2,293	2,416
Chepstow	5,143	4,302	5,283	2,695	2,588
Cwmbran	12,148	11,756	13,166	6,556	6,610
Ebbw Vale	35,381	31,686	29,220	14,720	14,419
Monmouth M.B.	5,334	4,947	5,438	2,488	2,950
Mynyddislwyn	13,712	15,136	14,434	7,322	7,112
Nantyglo & Blaina	16,448	13,189	11,442	5,840	5,602
Pontypool	44,831	43,910	42,703	21,242	21,461
Rhymney	11,690	10,506	9,137	4,614	4,523
Risca	16,745	16,605	15,130	7,483	7,647
Tredegar	25,110	23,192	20,376	10,175	10,201
Usk	1,494	1,315	1,609	794	815
Rural Districts	42,454	40,601	44,377	22,061	22,316
Abergavenny	9,062	8,584	8,668	4,318	4,350
Chepstow	8,735	8,686	10,245	5,106	5,139
Magor & St.Mellons	12,342	11,515	13,558	6,671	6,887
Monmouth	6,501	6,233	5,952	2,958	2,994
Pontypool.	5,814	5,583	5,954	3,008	2,946

Miscellaneous.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

This Act is enforced in this district by the Monmouthshire County Council as regards the duties of a Food and Drugs Authority.

Disposal of house and trade refuse.

The uncontrolled system of tipping is still in operation in this district.

Public swimming baths.

The public swimming baths, which is not owned by the Local Authority, is an open-air one provided with an adequate purification plant.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was necessary under section 47 of this Act during the year.

National Health Service Act, 1946.

The local health services under Part III of the above Act are provided by the Monmouthshire County Council.

Attendance at Conferences.

The Medical Officer of Health was not delegated to attend any conference by the Council during the year.

Medical Examination of Council Employees.

Medical examinations were carried out on three Council employees during the year.

Food Inspection, etc.

Fresh meat.

The district has got no slaughterhouse in use and all supplies come from outside sources. The butchers in the district did not press to open up old private slaughterhouses on the decontrol of meat as it would have been too costly, if not impossible, to have brought any of those premises up to a reasonable standard.

Ice Cream.

The main supply of this item comes from those outside firms who have a nation-wide reputation in the manufacture of this product.

There was no cause for complaint as regards the purity of this product during the year.

Milk Supply.

This district is now in a designated area with regard to the supply of milk and only pasteurised, sterilised, tuberculin tested or tuberculin tested pasteurised milks can now be offered for sale in such an area.

There are no pasteurising plants in the district and all supplies of heat-treated milk come from adjoining districts.

Samples of milk totalling twelve were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, and were reported on as satisfactory.

Food Shops - Inspections.

These premises continued to receive frequent inspections to ensure that section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Food Byelaws were being observed.

The food premises in the district are as follows:-

Grocery & provisions	21
Confectionery, ice cream, milk.	29
Greengrocery, fishmongery.	13
Butchers' shops.	10
Fried fish shops.	4
Cafes and Bakers.	6
Licensed Victuallers.	27
Clubs	6

It was not necessary to take legal proceedings against any trader for the sale of unsound food during the year.

Premises registered under Sec. 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

There are 26 premises registered under this section of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Disposal of Condemned Foods.

Foods which have been condemned are disposed of on the Council's refuse disposal site and secured from interference.

Water Supply.

There was no change to record in the district's domestic water supply during the year, though negotiations are in progress to secure further supplies to augment the district's present limited supply. Samples continued to be taken during the year and much variation was, as usual, found in the bacteriological quality of the unchlorinated water supplies.

HOUSING.

Table XXVII Showing the number of houses owned by this Authority at 31.12.'54.

	Temp. Pre-fabs	Non-Traditional Houses.	Tratitional Houses	Total
No. of houses owned by L.A. at 31.12.'54	50	84	284	418
No.of houses in the course of erection by L.A. on 31.12.'54.	-	-	-	-
No.of houses for which sanction had been given but which had not been commenced on 31.12.'54.	-	16	--	16

Table XXVIII Showing the number of houses erected during 1954 by the L.A. and by private enterprise.

	Temporary Pre-fabs.	Non-traditional Houses.	Traditional Houses
By Local Authority	-	-	-
By Private enterprise	1	-	-
Total	1	-	-

Number of houses under construction by private enterprise but not completed on 31.12'54 - Nil.

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

The factories in the district were inspected frequently during the year and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory. No workers were engaged on outwork so that sections 110 and 111 of the Act do not apply.

Table XXVIII Showing the number of factories and inspections thereof carried out during 1954.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written notices	
(1) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	5	16	2	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	55	-	-
(3) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	36	71	2	-

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

	Number of defects			Number of prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	2	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	2	-

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Report for the year ending the 31st March, 1955.

	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses	All (3) other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. 1,2,3,	(5) Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district.	35	2,695	236	2,966	20
11. No. of properties inspected as result of (a) Notification	3	32	3	38	-
(b) Survey under the Act	32	1,978	204	2,214	18
(c) Otherwise	-	-	-	-	-
111. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections.	53	2,967	311	3,331	23
1V. No. of properties inspected (in Sec. 11) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major	-	-	-	-	-
(Minor	6	35	2	43	-
(b) Mice (Major	-	-	-	-	-
(Minor	1	5	1	7	-
V. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 1V) treated by L.A.	7	40	3	50	-
V1. No. of notices served under sec. 4 of the Act. (a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural works i.e. proofing.	-	-	-	-	-
VII. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
VIII. Legal Proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Number of block control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-

Table XXIX Showing the number of demolition and closing orders made and the number of notices served under the Public Health and Housing Acts during the year.

Part A - Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936)

	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in the period		Number of persons displaced.
	Unfit houses	Other houses	
(1) Land coloured "pink"	----	----	----
(2) Land coloured "grey"	----	----	----

Part B - Houses not included in Clearance Areas.

	Number of	
	Houses	Persons displaced
Demolition and Closing Orders.		
(1) Housing Act, 1936		
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11.	-	-
(b) Houses closed in persuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11, and still in force.	-	-
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	-	-
(2) Housing Act, 1949.		
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3(1)	-	-
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3(2)	-	-
(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.		
Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	3	11

	Number of Houses
Repairs.	
Informal Action.	
(4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts.	9
Action under Statutory Powers.	
(5) Public Health Acts. Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
(a) by owners	4
(b) by local authority in default of owners	-
(6) Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9,10,11, and 16)	
(a) by owners	-
(b) by local authority in default of owners	-

Food submitted and condemned during the year.

	50 tins meat	
	23 jars meat	
	104 tins fruit	
	229 tins vegetables	
	35 tins milk	
	10 tins fish	
	3 tins soup	
	3 tins ham	(Total weight - 44¾lbs.)
	2 tins Tongue	(Total weight - 9 lbs.)
	1 tin Veal	(Net weight - 6 lbs)
	1 tin Corned Beef	(Net weight 6 lbs)
Total number	461 tins	

80 lbs. of meat
11½ lbs. cheese
8 boxes cereals
3 stone of fish.

The district was without the services of its Sanitary Inspector during the greater part of 1954 due to the prolonged illness of the late Mr. W. A. Curtis and his regrettable decease in August, 1954. The death of Mr. W. A. Curtis brought to an untimely end the 27 years of service rendered to this Authority by a most conscientious and knowledgeable local government official who was always increasing his information by the constant study of subjects related to his sphere of endeavour as a public health inspector.

The vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. W. A. Curtis was filled in October, 1954, by the appointment of Mr. D. H. Cowles as sanitary inspector to this Authority. Mr. Cowles had the good fortune to receive some of his early training under the guidance of the late Mr. W. A. Curtis and had the advantage of taking up his appointment with a detailed knowledge of his new district. We wish Mr. Cowles a happy and successful career in his new appointment.

I would thank the other departments of the Authority and the Council members for their helpfulness during the past year.

I am,
Yours obediently,

P J Hallinan