[Report 1955] / Medical Officer of Health, Blaenavon U.D.C.

Contributors

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HEALTH A-6JUL 56 C.R. 20

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

for the year 1955.

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, 1956.

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Statistical Summary, 1955.

Area of district.	4,613 acres
Rateable Value (1.4.'55).	£33,674.
Estimated net product of 1d. rate (1954-55).	£121.9.5.53d.
Number of inhabited houses (1955).	2,849
Number of Council-owned houses (31.12.'55).	418
Number of Council houses built during 1955.	Nil.
Population (estimated mid 1955).	9,490
Average number of persons per house.	3.3
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.	104
Birth rate per 1,000 population.	10.9
Number of illegitimate births.	1
Number of stillbirths.	3
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population.	.32
Number of deaths.	159
Crude death rate (i.e. deaths per 1,000 population).	16.8
Number of infant deaths (i.e.deaths under 1 year of age).	6
Infant mortality rate.	57.7
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.	4
Death rate per 1,000 population from cancer of lungs and bronchi.	.42
Death rate per 1,000 population from cancer (all forms).	1.9
Percentage of total deaths for 1955 due to cancer of lungs and bronchi	.2.5%
Percentage of total deaths for 1955 due to pulmonary tuberculosis.	Nil.

Year Births	
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
1955 104	159

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Councillor D. W. Walker, J.P. Vice-Chairman: - Councillor C. G. Parker.

Central Ward Councillors

East Ward Councillors.

Councillor Miss A.M. Lewis, J.P. Councillor D.W. Walker, J.P.

R. A. Watkins.

D. W. Puddle.

H. T. Wathen.

C. G. Parker.

W. H. Parry.

W. H. Taylor.

S. Banks.

C. Evans.

A. Penhelog.

W. H. Arnold.

West Ward Councillors.

Councillor R. J. Morris, B.A.

E. J. Davies, B.A.

A. J. Bowen.

R. H. Jenkins.

J. E. Howells.

Ll. Price.

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

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

Officers of the Council:-

Clerk of the Council and Chief Financial Officer.

Deputy Clerk of the Council.

Surveyor & Waterworks Engineer.

Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector.

I. G. Gwyn Thomas, F.C.I.S., F.A.C.C.A.

T. A. George, A.C.I.S.

G. C. E. Thomas, J.P.

F. J. Hallinan, M.B.E. (Mil.),

M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

D. H. Cowles, M.R.San.I.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLAENAVON FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1955.

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

Mr. Chairman, Miss Lewis & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the state of the public health of the district for the year 1955. This report is submitted in accordance with the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 and 1951, and as laid down in circular 17/55 (Wales) dated 23rd November, 1955, of the Welsh Board of Health.

General Comment.

The year 1955 has been an uneventful one from the aspect of the occurrence of notifiable diseases in the district apart from the notification of one case of poliomyelitis which, fortunately, was of the non-paralytic variety and the affected child made a full recovery.

For the sixth successive year there was no notification of diphtheria which is evidence of the continued success of prophylactic anti-diphtheria immunisation.

It is also notable that this is the second successive year in which the district has been free from a death attributable to tuberculosis and is evidence of the success of anti-biotic drugs coupled with modern chest surgery in the treatment of this once dreaded disease.

The population of the district continued to drop and follow the trend of recent years, when live births failed to outnumber the yearly deaths by an appreciable margin. The deaths for 1955 are the highest since 1947 and from table V it will be observed that 64% of the total deaths for the year occurred in persons who had attained the age of 65 years. It will also be noted that 35% of the total deaths were in persons who had attained the age of 75 years.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population at mid 1955 was 9,490.

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 1955 - adjacent Urban Districts.

Abergavenny M.B. 8,970 Abercarn U.D. 18,490 Abertillery U.D. 26,870 Bedwellty U.D. 28,120 Cwmbran U.D. 17,100 Ebbw Vale U.D. 28,420 Monmouth M.B. 5,720 Tredegar U.D. 20,150 Pontypool U.D. 41,660

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

Rainfall.

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

January	6.38 ins.	July	0.63	ins.
February	4.10 "	August	1.36	11
March	3.83 "	September	2.04	11
April	1.39 "	October	3.30	"
May	7.36 "	November	7.70	11
June	6.03 "	December	8.87	11

Total 52.99 inches.

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

1946	67.78	ins.	1951	67.28	ins.
1947	47.74	"	1952	54.69	11
1948	61.72	"	1953	47.21	11
1949	50.90	"	1954	65.18	11
1950	56.89	"	1955	52.99	11

VITAL STATISTICS.

Table I Showing the yearly number of live births, estimated midyear population and birth rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1947.

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
Number of live births	104	105	137	129	123	150	155	173	202
Estimated mid-year population.	9,490	9,580	9589	9,628	9719	9,981	9,975	9922	9,764
Birth rate per 1,000 population.	10.9	10.9	14.3	13.4	12.7	15.0	15.5	17.4	20.6

The live births allocated to the district for the year numbered 104 and were comprised of 52 males and 52 females. There was one (female) illegitimate birth included in this total.

The live births for the year again failed to replace deaths and the deficiency increased to 55.

The stillbirths for the year numbered 3 (2 males and 1 female) and all were legitimate. The stillbirth rate per 1,000 population for the district was 0.32 as compared with a County rate of 0.51.

The birth rate per 1,000 population for the district was 10.9 and was exactly the same as for 1954. This birth rate is very low compared with the County rate of 15.3 and a rate of 15.0 for England and Wales.

If a comparison is to be made between the local rate and that for England and Wales the local rate should be multiplied by the comparability factor furnished by the Registrar General, which is 1.06.

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Table II Showing the births registered in and allocated to this district for 1955, according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable births.

Month .	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly births.	
January February March April May June July August September October November December	1 1 2 2 3 2 2 -	23-22332111	3) 4) 1 <u>)</u> 2) 3 <u>)</u> 5) 5) 5) 3)	8 5 15 7	
Totals	15	20	35	35	
Inward trans- ferable births	37	32	69		
Grand totals for the year 1955	52	52	104		

Comparative birth rates - 1955.

Blaenavon Urhan District -	10.9
Monmouthshire Administrative County	- 15.3
England and Wales -	15.0

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DEATHS.

Table III. Showing the yearly number of deaths, estimated mid-year populations, and the death rate per 1,000 population for the district since 1947.

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
Number of deaths	159	112	129	137	125	144	139	116	156
Estimated mid- year population.	9,490	9,580	9,589	9,628	9,719	9,981	9,975	9,922	9,764
Death rate per 1,000 population.	16.8	11.7	13.5	14.2	12.9	14.4	13.7	11.7	15.8

The deaths allocated to the district for the year numbered 159 and were made up of 94 males and 65 females. This figure shows an increase of 47 over last year's figure which was the lowest for some years. A comparable high figure was last recorded in 1947. The increase for 1955 is attributable to the large number of elderly people who died during the year.

Table VI shows how these deaths were allocated to the various causes.

There were no deaths allocated to maternal causes (pregnancy, childbirth, abortion) during the year. The County maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) was 0.98 for the year.

For the second consecutive year no deaths resulted from tuberculosis.

Diseases of the heart and blood vessel claimed 84 deaths (42 males and 42 females) or 52.8% of the total deaths.

All forms of canter claimed 18 deaths (10 males and 8 females) or 11.3% of the total deaths.

Motor vehicle accidents claimed one male death and all other accidents claimed 7 deaths (5 males and 2 females).

A comparison can be made between the local death rate and that for England and Wales if the local rate is multiplied by the comparability factor of 1.05 supplied by the Registrar General.

Table II Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1955, according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable deaths.

Month	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly Deaths	
January February March April May June July August September October November December	6 8 7 7 10 4 5 5 5 6 1 7	399844613332	9) 17) 16) 15) 14) 8) 11) 6) 8) 9) 4)	42 37 25 22	
Totals	71	55	126	126	
Inward trans- ferable deaths	23	10	3:	3	
Grand total for 1955	94	65	159		

Comparative death rates - 1955.

Blaenavon Urban District - 16.8 Monmouthshire Administrative County - 12.4 England and Wales - 11.7 till or herenally has at total organ animal on salarity in because and animals in because and animals and animals and animals and animals and animals animals and animals and animals animals and animals animals and animals animals

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Table V Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1955 by quin quennial age groups and by sex.

Age last birthday	Males	Females	Totals
0 - 4	5	1	6
5 - 9	1	-	1
10 - 14	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	. 1	1
20 - 24	2	-	2
25 - 29	-	-	-
30 - 34	-	-	-
35 - 39	1	1	2
40 - 44	2	1	3
45 - 49	2	4	6
50 - 54	5	1	6
55 - 59	8	4	12
60 - 64	14	4	18
65 - 69	10	10	20
70 - 74	14	12	26
75 - 79	13	13	26
80 - 84	11	7	18
85 - 89	6	5	11
90 - 94	-	-	-
95 +	-	1	1
All ages	9.4	65	159

The above table shows that 64% of the total deaths occurred in persons who had reached the age of 65 years and 35% had attained the age of 75 years and over.

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Table VI Showing the deaths from all causes, infant deaths, births and stillbirths allocated to this district for 1955.

Causes of death	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory. 2. Tuberculosis, other. 3. Syphilitic disease. 4. Diphtheria. 5. Whooping Cough. 6. Meningococcal infection. 7. Acute poliomyelitis. 8. Measles. 9. Other infectious and parasitic diseases. 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus. 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast. 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 diseases, angina. 19. Hypertension with heart disease. 20. Other heart disease. 21. Other circulatory disease. 22. Influenza. 23. Pneumonia. 24. Bronchitis. 25. Other diseases of the 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.	107-05-1463-33-2415	102154-2217-2
Total all causes.	94	65
Deaths in infants under 1 year of age:- Legitimate Illegitimate	5 5 -	1 1 -
Total births:- Legitimate Illegitimate	52 52 -	52 51 1
Stillbirths:- Legitimate Illegitimate	2 2 -	1 1 -

Estimated population mid 1955 = 9,490.

Comparability factors:-

Births		Deaths
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Table VII Showing the number of inquests during 1955 On persons belonging to this district and the circumstances of these deaths.

Circumstances of death	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of the kidney	1	-	1
Burns received in the house - accidental	-	1	1
Pulmonary oedema following intestinal resection	1	-	1
Mining accident - underground.	2	-	2
Chronic bronchitis and pneumonia	1	-	1
Pneumoconiosis	4	-	4
Chronic bronchitis and emphysema	2	-	2
Coal gas poisoning - accidental	1	-	1
Coronary thrombosis	3	-	3
Late results of mining accident.	1	-	1
Accidental fall while in chronic sick hospital	-	1	1
Cardiac failure	1	1	2
Found drowned	1	-	1
Uraemia	1	-	1
Aortic stenosis	1	-	1
Road accident - motor cyclist	1	-	1
All causes	21	3	24

The fatal road accident was that of a motor-cyclist aged 21 years.

The three mining accidents involved males aged 46 years, 57 years and 64 years.

The four deaths allocated to pneumoconiosis occurred in males aged 42 years, 66 years, 70 years and 73 years.

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Infant Mortality.

Table VIII Showing the number of infant deaths, live births, etc., since 1947 in this district.

	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
No. of deaths in infants under 1 yr.	6	7	5	3	6	2	8	8	7
No.of live births	104	105	137	129	123	150	155	173	202
Infant mortality rate.	57.7	66.6	36.5	23.3	48.8	13.3	51.6	46.2	34.6

Of the above six infant deaths three occurred in hospital and three at home. Three of these deaths occurred in the first week of life and were due to conditions which are not preventable. The figure of six infant deaths for the year is no higher than the average figure for the eight previous years.

Table IX. Showing the infant deaths assigned to this district for 1955 by cause and in age groups.

Cause of death	under 1 week.	l - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under l month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total deaths under l year
Asphyxia neonatorum	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Broncho-pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Anencephaly & meningocele	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1
Acute bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Prematurity	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital atresia of larynx	1	-	-	-	1	-	_	_	-	1
All causes	3	-	1	-	4	1	1	-	-	6

Table X. Showing the infant mortality rate for England and Wales, etc., for 1955, 1954, 1953, 1952, 1951.

Year	England & Wales	Administrative County of Monmouthshire	Blaenavon
1951	29.6	43.1	48.8
1952	27.6	33.9	23.3
1953	26.8	32.6	36.5
1954	25.6	39.7	66.6
1955	24.9	33.9	57.7

Total Mortellty.

Total VIII Shorted the number of talent course, law birton, of a

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Table IX. Storder the indust desire analysed to this district for

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Notifiable Diseases (excluding tuberculosis)

There were five notifications of measles, one notification of scarlet fever, one notification of meningococcal meningitis and one notification of non-paralytic poliomyelitis during the year.

There was no notification of hiphtheria for the 6th year in succession, which is a most satisfactory state of affairs.

The number of anti-diphtheria immunisations done in the Council's district during 1955 was as follows:-

	(as re	gards .	of final A) or of se (as r	
	under lyr.	l - 4 yrs	5-14 yrs	Total
A. Number of children who completed a full course of primary immun- isation in the Council's district during the year ended 31.12.'55.	16	33	20	69
B. Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) dose subsequent to primary immunisation in the year ended 31.12.'55	-	14	62	76

The continued maintenance of a high level of immunisation is the best guarantee against the return of this disease. A combined immunisation against both diphtheria and whooping cough is now available for use since the middle of 1955, in the infant welfare clinic, and is strongly recommended. This combined immunisation is best begun at the age of 4 - 5 months so that the child is protected against whooping cough during the period of life when it is most lethal.

Vaccination against smallpox.

The number of vaccinations done in the district during 1955 was as follows:-

Age at date of vaccination.	under lyr	lyear	2-4years	5-14 yrs	15+yrs	Total
No.vaccinated	36	3	4	-	-	43
No.revaccinated	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	36	3	4	-	-	43

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Table X1 Showing the notifiable diseases notified in this district during 1955, analysed in age and sex groups and giving the admissions to hospital. (excluding tuberculosis).

1a fever 1.		Under lyr.	lyr.	Н	- 2	2	- 3	- 6	4 -	4	- 5	5 -	10	10-15	15	15-20	20	20-35	35	35-45	45	45-65	65	+59		All	HOH	Cases admitted to
h	Disease.	M.	<u>[24</u>	M.	E4	M.	(H)	M.	E4		[E4	M.			E4	M.		M.		M.	[H	M.	E		-	124		hospital
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heata and and and and and and and	Measles	1	1	1	7	1	7	Н	7	1	1	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	_		5	1
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Trum Trum Trum Trum Trum	Whooping cough.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	!	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	_		1	,
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Table XII Showing the number of cases of notifiable disease notified yearly since 1944 (tuberculosis excluded).

Disease	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	3
Measles	5	-	58	35	236	1	-	397	8	3	142	4
Scarlet fever	1	-	-	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 & influenzal pneumos		-	3	2	4	-	2	4	-	1	1	4
Erysipelas	-	-	2	5	2	8	3	8	1	4	4	1
Food poisoning	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	1
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis (a) paralytic (b) non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	3			-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Tuber culosis.

The chest clinic facilities for Blaenavon are provided at the Park Buildings, Pontypool, which is a suitable and convenient centre for this purpose. There are two whole day clinics held each week for dealing with new patients referred to the chest physician, old cases requiring follow-up and the examination of contacts.

An environmental report is made by the Medical Officer of Health on all new cases notified in the district and arrangements made for checking up on the contacts by chest xray and skin testing where appropriate. A copy of the environmental report is available to the County Medical Officer andthe Chest Physician. A suitable disinfectant for use in connection with laundry or sputum receptacles is available in appropriate cases from the Public Health Department. Disinfection is carried out where necessary in the homes of those removed to hospital. At the end of this year there was no waiting list for tuberculous cases requiring any form of hospital treatment which they were willing to undergo.

There was no mass radiography general population survey carried out during the year but a unit did visit the factory of Everwear Candlewick Ltd., in the district and 124 persons were xrayed. As a result of this factory survey three cases were referred to the Chest Physician as requiring further investigation. Even though no general survey was held in the district during the year most of the workers who travel down the valley to work in factories had the opportunity of having an xray as most of these larger factories were visited by a mass radiography unit during the year. While the shortage of mobile mass radiography units persists it is probably a wiser policy to concentrate on carrying out surveys in factories where the response is so much better than in general population surveys.

There is a possibility that a static mass radiography unit may be set up at the Chest Clinic in Newport in the near future and this would enable anyone to go and have a chest xray with the least possible difficulty at any time. Inposedati-

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Table XIII Showing the new cases of tuberculosis notified and the deaths due to tuberculosis during 1955, analysed in age and sex groups and by type of disease.

Age	-	New Case		ulmonary	Dulm	Deaths	Non-ni	lmonary
Groups	Pulm	onary	Non-b	drinonary	Pulm	onar y	Non-po	atmonary
Years	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-35	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	5	-	-		-	-	-

In addition to the above primary notifications of tuberculosis there were three inward transfers from other districts - 2 males andone female (all pulmonary cases).

The above five female cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were classified as Al, Bl, A2, B2 and B2.

The death rates for tuberculosis for this district for 1955 were as follows:-

(Rates for 1954 are in parenthesis)

- (a) Tuberculosis (all forms) Nil per 1,000 population (nil)
- (b) Pulmonary tuberculosis Nil 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 at 31.12.'55.

Male	s	Female	s	m-+-3
Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
28	10	45	5	88

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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

Total yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis			6	00	00	00	7	14	6	3	4	1	2	1	,	
from tuberculosis	Non-pulmonary	Female	1	1	1	2	1	2	,	1	,	,	1	1	,	,
deaths from tube		Male	,	7	-1	7	٦	2	-	1	,	,	,	,	,	1
		Female	5	9	3	4	7	9	5	2	,	,	2	,	1	1
Yearly	Pulmonary	Male	3	7	2	1	1	м	M	7	4		٦	1	1	1
Total yearly notifications of pulmonaty & non-pulmonary tuberculosis			14	25	59	17	22	17	16	17	2	00	12	10	Ю	5
tuberculosis	Non-pulmonary	Female	2	П	3	7	1	,	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-
Yearly notifications of tub	Non-pu	Male	2	3	1	1	5	2	,	1	2	1	1	1		1
	Pulmonary	Female	9	13	17	00	7	6	9	00	3	2	00	9	2	5
Yearly n	Pu	Male	4	00	00	0	10	9	6	00	2	5	2	2	п	1
Year			1945	1943	1944	1945	9461	1945	1948	1949	1950	1661	1952	1953	1954	1955

Table XVI Showing theoccupations of the 5 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1955.

Occupation	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
Factory Worker Housewife	1 4	-	1 4
Totals	5	-	5

Table XVII Showing the monthly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for the year 1955. Corrected for diagnosis.

	Pulmor	nary	Non-pu	lmonary		
Month	Male	Females	Males	Females	Total	
January	-	1 -	-	-	_	
February	-	1	-	-	1	
March	-	1	-	-	1	
April	-	-	-	-	-	
May	-	-	-	-	-	
June	-	1	-	-	1	
July	-	2	-	-	2	
August	-	-	-	-	-	
September	-	-	-	-	-	
October	-	-	-	-	-	
November	-	-	-	-	-	
December	-		-	-	-	
Totals	-	5	-	-	5	

Table XVIII Showing the admissions to and discharges from institutions for the treatment of tuberculosis during 1955.

Institution	Admis	sions	Discharges		
Institution	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Cefn Mably Sully Talgarth Chepstow Benenden, Kent. Abergale Chest Hosp.	1 2	1 2 - 1	1	1 1 1 1	
Total	3	4	2	3	

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

	Notification per 1,000 p		Death rat	tes per pulation.
Year	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
1938 1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 1952 1953 1954 1955	2.93 3.02 2.11 2.62 1.00 2.14 2.54 1.55 1.74 1.51 1.61 .50 .82 1.14 .83 .31	0.30 .68 .48 .09 .40 .41 .41 .21 .51 .20 .10 .10 .20 .00 .10 .21 .00 .00	.51 .59 .67 .47 .79 .71 .61 .50 .51 .92 .81 .30 .40 .00 .31 .10	.00 .00 .10 .00 .10 .10 .21 .50 .20 .51 .10 .00 .00

	PHISTORNEY	

MISCELLANEOUS.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The Monmouthshire County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority for this district and are responsible for enforcing those sections of the Act applicable to such an Authority.

Disposal of house and trade refuse.

The method still in operation is the uncontrolled one.

Public Swimming Baths.

The public swimming bath is an open air one which is provided with adequate purification plant. The Local Authority does not own this bath.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It was not necessary to utilise the powers given under section 47 of this Act during the year.

National Health Service Act, 1946.

The local health services under Part III of this Act are carried out in this district by the Monmouthshire County Council.

Attendance at Conferences.

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

Medical Examination of Council Employees.

Medical Examinations were carried out on two Council employees during the year.

Inspection of food and food premises, etc.

Fresh Meat.

There is no slaughterhouse operating within the district and all supplies of fresh meat come from outside the area, mainly the Brynmawr abattoir. The Council contribute an appropriate proportion towards the salary of a meat inspector at the Brynmawr abattoir.

Ice Cream.

Practically all of this commodity comes from outside sources and the results of samples taken throughout the year gave no cause for complaint from the aspect of bacteriological purity.

Milk Supply.

Only designated milks can now be sold in the district such as pasteurised, sterilised, tuberculin tested and tuberculin tested pasteurised. Samples taken during the year showed that these supplies conformed with the standards laid down for designated milks.

There is no pasteurising plant located within this district.

Inspections of food shops.

Repeated inspections were made on all food shops to ensure that there was compliance with the legislation in force.

The food premises in the district are as follows:-

Grocery and provisions.	21
Confectionery, ice cream, milk.	29
Greengrocery, fishmongery.	13
Butchers' shops.	10
Fried fish shops.	2
Cafes and bakers.	7
Licensed Victuallers.	27
Clubs.	7

Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, (Section 14).

There are 26 premises registered under the above section.

WATER SUPPLY.

The dry months of 1955 saw the district with a grossly inadequate water supply entailing long periods daily when supplies had to be cut off. The result of water sampling during the year was a repetition of the findings over previous years when reports varied from an absence of contamination to heavy contamination. It is hoped that negotiations which have taken place will result in the present supply being augmented with a chlorinated supply in the near future.

HOUSING.

Table XX. Showing the number of houses owned by this Authority at 31.12.'55.

	Temp. Pre.fabs	Non- Traditional Houses.	Traditional Houses.	Total
No.of houses owned by L.A. at 31.12.'55.	50	84	284	418
No.of houses in the course of erection by L.A. on 31.13.'55.	-	16	-	16
No.of houses for which sanction had been given but which had not been commenced on 31.12.'55.	-	-	-	-

Table XXI Showing the number of houses erected during 1955 by the Local Authority and by private enterprise.

		Non- Traditional Houses.	Traditional Houses.	Total
By Local Authority By private enterprise	-	-	-	
Total	-	-	_	_

Number of houses under construction by private enterprise but not completed by 31.12.'55 - 1.

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HOUSING ACT 1949.

Improvement Grants under the above Act.

- (a) Number of improvement grants, 1955. 6
- (b) Total number of improvement grants 1949-1955 (inclusive) 6
- (c) Amount of improvement grants, 1955. £1,189.12.6.
- (c) Total amount of improvement grants 1949-1955 (inclusive) £1,189.12.6

Improvement Loans under the above Act.

- (a) Number of improvement loans, 1955. Nil.
- (b) Total number of improvement loans, 1949-1955 (inclusive) Nil.
- (c) Amount of improvement loans, 1955 Nil.
- (d) Total amount of improvement loans 1949-1955 (inclusive) Nil.

Slum Clearance Proposals.

During the year a list was made of the worst properties in the district which were considered ripe for immediate demolition. These properties numbered 143 and were distributed in the wards as follows:West Ward - 66: Central Ward - 62: East Ward - 15.

The clearance of these insanitary properties is an urgent matter but their replacement would appear to be a long way off.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Factory premises in the district continued to be inspected during the year and conditions were generally found to be satisfactory. Sections 110 and 111 of Part VIII of the Act did not apply as no outwork was being carried on.

Table XXII Showing the number of factories and inspections of same carried out during the year.

	Number on	Number of	Written	Occupiers
Premises	Register	Inspections		
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	4	18	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	30	76	1	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
Total	34	94	1	-

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

	Num	ber of de	fects	Number
	Found		Referred by H.M.Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1.1	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) (a) Unsufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective (c) Not separate for sexes	1 -	1 -		-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	-

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Table XXIV Showing the work carried out under the above Act, for the

year ending 31st March, 1956.							
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)		
	Local	Dwelling	All other (including	Total	Agric-		
	Authority		Business	Cols.	ultural		
	1		Premises.	1,2,3			
l.Number of properties in Local Authority's district.	35	2,694	235	2,964	20		
2No.of properties inspected as result of (a) Notification (b) Survey under The Act. (c) Otherwise	5 29	2 <u>3</u> 2 <u>1</u> 399	6 196	34 2,624	19 -		
3.Total inspections carried out including re-inspections.	49	3,016	298	3,363	21		
4.No.of properties inspected (in Sec.2) which were found to be infested by: (a) rats (Major (Minor (Major (Minor (Minor)	<u>-</u>	<u></u>	<u>-</u> <u>-</u> 3	<u>4</u> 5			
5.Number of infested properties (in Sec. 4) treated by L.A.	11	31	8	50	-		
6. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act.(a)Treatment (b)Structural works i.e.proffing.							
7.No.of cases in which action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec.4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-		
8. Legal Proceedings.		-	-	-	-		
9. Number of block control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-		

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Table XXV 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.

	Number of			
	Houses	Persons displaced		
Demolition and Closing Orders.				
(1) Housing Act, 1936 (a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal proceedure 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 (Sec.12)	-	-		
(2) Housing Act, 1949.				
(a) Closing Orders made under Sec. 3(1)	-	-		
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Sec. 3(2)		_		
(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.				
Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	1			
	Number of Houses.			
Repairs Informal Action.				
(4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered during the period as a result of informal aby the local authority under the Public Heat or Housing Acts.	47			
Action under Statutory Powers.				
(5) Public Health Acts. Number of houses in which defects were remeafter service of formal notices. (a) by owners.	13			
(b) by local authority in default of owners	-			
(6) Number of houses made fit after service of notices (sections 9,10,11 and 16) (a) by owners.				
(b) by local authority in default of owners	-			

I wish to thank all departments of the Authority for their kind co-operation during the year.

Yours obediently,

1. Hallin an in