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Contributors

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**THE BLAENAVON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

THE ANNUAL REPORT
of the
**MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**



YEAR ended 31st December, 1962

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

for the year 1962.

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

District Medical Officer of Health,
Blaenavon Urban District.

Council Offices,
Lion Street,
Blaenavon,
Mon.

May, 1963.

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BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Statistics Summary - 1962.

Area of district	4,613 acres
Rateable value (1.4.'62)	£54,514
Estimated product of 1d. rate (1.4.'62)	£198
Number of council-owned houses (31.12.'62)	506
Number of council houses built during 1962	Nil
Population (estimated mid 1962)	8,390
Number of live births (1962)	130
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	15.5
Number of illegitimate live births	6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.6%
Number of stillbirths	2
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	15.2
Total live and stillbirths	132
Number of infant deaths (under 1 year)	5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - total	38.5
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births - legitimate	40.3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births - illegitimate	Nil
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	23.1
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	37.9
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	Nil
Number of maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Number of deaths (1962)	124
Death rate per 1,000 population	14.8

<u>Year</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Natural increase</u>
1948	173	116	+ 57
1949	155	137	+ 18
1950	150	144	+ 6
1951	123	125	- 2
1952	129	137	- 8
1953	137	129	+ 8
1954	105	112	- 7
1955	104	158	- 54
1956	119	128	- 9
1957	120	122	- 2
1958	122	119	+ 3
1959	119	110	+ 9
1960	118	118	0
1961	128	134	- 6
1962	130	124	+ 6

BLAENAVON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman :-

Councillor Miss A.M. Lewis, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :-

Councillor S. Banks.

Central Ward Councillors.

East Ward Councillors.

Councillor Miss A.M. Lewis, J.P.
County Councillor R.A. Watkins.
Councillor D.W. Puddle.
" W.H. Parry.
" E.J. Hobbs.
" A.R. Targett.

County Councillor W. Arnold.
Councillor W.H. Taylor.
" G. Bailey.
" S. Banks.
" C. Evans.
" W.J. Edwards.

West Ward Councillors.

County Councillor K. Keen.
Councillor A.P. Griffiths.
" R.J. Morris, B.A.
" E.J. Davies, B.A.
" J. Peters.
" T. Bond.

The Ordinary meeting of the Council is held on the last Wednesday in the month at 6.0 p.m.

The Housing Committee meet on the first Wednesday each month.

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

Officers of the Council.

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer,	G. St. D. Lloyd-Evans, Esq., (resigned September 1962).
Deputy Clerk of the Council,	G. Gratton, Esq.
Surveyor and Waterworks Engineer,	G.C.E. Thomas, Esq., J.P.
Medical Officer of Health,	F.J. Hallinan, M.B.E. (Mil.), M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Address:- Library Buildings, Hanbury Road, Pontypool.

Phone:- Pontypool 700 (Extension 40).

Public Health Inspector,

D.H. Cowles, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(resigned June 1962).

Address:- Council Offices,
Blaenavon.

K.F. Weston, M.A.P.H.I.
(appointed June 1962).

Phone:- Blaenavon 258.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TO THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLAENAVON.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1962.

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

Madam Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your information my annual public health report for the district for the year 1962.

The report is compiled to comply with Regulations 5 (3) and 15 (5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959, and with the directions contained in Circular 1/63 (Wales) dated 30th January, 1963, from the Welsh Board of Health.

GENERAL COMMENT.

From the aspect of notifiable diseases the year 1962 was an uneventful one as is reflected in the few notifications received for this district. The main incident was the notification of one case of paralytic poliomyelitis in a female child aged 2½ years. As regards tuberculosis a new low record has been achieved for the district during 1962, as only one case of tuberculosis was notified. It is also of note that no death was assigned to any form of tuberculosis for the year.

The first half of the year saw the recurring smallpox incidents in South Wales and this district, in common with so many other districts, had its epidemic of vaccinations, rumours and scares. The general public demanded mass vaccination and they were catered for by the opening of a public vaccination clinic which was run by an Assistant Medical Officer from the County Health Department. Records are held for 5,762 vaccinations (4,583 primary vaccinations and 1,179 re-vaccinations) done during the year at the public vaccination clinics, the Infant Welfare Clinic and General Practitioners' surgeries. Many more were done at their place of work outside the district for which no records are held, and it is estimated that these numbered about 300.

When the smallpox scare had died away the occurrence of poliomyelitis in epidemic proportions in a part of Monmouthshire caused some apprehension in the month of May, June and July. This district remained free until July, 4th when a female child was reported ill with a paresis of the left leg. She was admitted the same day to Alt-yr-yn Isolation Hospital, Newport, as a case of paralytic poliomyelitis and the child contacts in the home excluded from school and home quarantine advised. This child had not been previously vaccinated against poliomyelitis, nor had any of the other children in the household. Oral vaccine was given to these home contacts including their parents. This child made a good recovery and was discharged from hospital on 21.8.1962 to attend an orthopaedic out-patient clinic for observation and physiotherapy. The infecting virus in this case was identified as poliovirus type 1. On the occurrence of this case it was considered advisable, in view of the epidemic nature of the poliomyelitis outbreak in neighbouring parts of the County, to open a public clinic and offer oral vaccine to all between the age of 6 months and 40 years. It was not considered at this stage that there should be any school closure, swimming baths closure or restriction in people's movements in view of the compact nature of the district.

The public vaccination clinic was opened on July, 5th and continued for five days from 10.0 a.m. until 7.45 p.m. During this period the response was very good and some 2,700 persons were vaccinated out of an estimated 4,000 who were eligible. No further cases of poliomyelitis came to light in the district and it is felt that the good response to vaccination, which was offered immediately on the appearance of the first signs of infection in the district, may have been instrumental in containing the outbreak. Further public vaccination clinics were held at later dates to enable those requiring to complete their vaccination course to do so and these were fairly well attended.

The matter of water supply to the district both as regards adequacy in quantity and quality continues to give grave concern as it has done over many years and the picture for 1962 as shown in Table XX1 on page 24 indicates once again the unsatisfactory bacteriological quality of our supply, and the potential danger to public health. We cannot feel happy about the position until all of our public supplies are treated by the most modern methods to ensure a pure supply bacteriologically and so obviate the need for issuing boiling notices to sections of the town periodically. The grave danger of inadequately treated water supplies has only recently been brought home to us too vividly in the Zermatt affair.

Lack of sufficient pressure in many of the town's water mains has caused much inconvenience to householders in recent years, but the Council's Consultant Engineers have prepared a scheme for the early relaying of new mains to replace these very old and badly rusted ones.

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The population estimate for the district at mid 1962 as furnished by the Registrar General was 8,390, which once again continues the yearly downward trend in population for the town as shown over the last forty years.

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)
1961 census population	-	8,451	(4,257 males and 4,194 females)

Estimated mid-year population since 1952.

1952	9,628		
1953	9,589	=	39 fall
1954	9,580	=	9 fall
1955	9,490	=	90 fall
1956	9,320	=	170 fall
1957	9,230	-	90 fall
1958	9,140	=	90 fall
1959	9,060	=	80 fall
1960	9,010	=	50 fall
1961	8,410	=	600 fall
1962	8,390	=	20 fall

Total drop in the mid year population estimates since 1952 = 1,238.

Elevations above sea level.

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

Estimated populations - mid 1962 - adjacent Urban Districts.

Abergavenny M.B.	9,700	Abercarn U.D.	19,400	Abertillery U.D.	25,020
Bedwellty U.D.	27,470	Cwmbran U.D.	23,190	Ebbw Vale U.D.	28,350
Monmouth M.B.	5,780	Tredegar U.D.	19,820	Pontypool U.D.	39,750

The Blaenavon Urban District is located at the head of the Eastern Valley of Monmouthshire and is moderately well served for road transport. The railway line was recently closed as part of the national policy of branch line closure.

Rainfall.

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

January	7.93	ins.	July	2.56	ins.
February	1.58	"	August	6.53	"
March	2.08	"	September	5.64	"
April	4.89	"	October	1.81	"
May	4.13	"	November	4.32	"
June	1.01	"	December	2.57	"

Total 45.05 ins.

The district's rainfall during the past 6 years was as follows:-

1957	54.01	ins.	1960	82.75	ins.
1958	65.00	"	1961	53.79	"
1959	62.39	"	1962	45.05	"

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

TABLE 1

Showing the yearly number of live births, estimated mid-year population and birth rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1954.

	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Number of live births	130	128	118	119	122	120	119	104	105
Estimated mid-year population	8,390	8,410	9,010	9,060	9,140	9,230	9,320	9,490	9,580
Birth rate per 1,000 population	15.5	15.2	13.1	13.1	13.4	13.0	12.8	10.9	10.9

There were 130 births (65 males and 65 females) allocated to this district for 1962, which is an increase of 2 over the previous year. Of these births all were legitimate with the exception of 6 (4 males and 2 females).

The natural increase for the year (excess of births over deaths) was 6.

There were 2 stillbirths (both legitimate) during the year giving a stillbirth rate of 15.2 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths for the district as compared with the County rate of 25.6.

The birth rate per 1,000 population for the year was 15.5 which maintains the upward trend set last year.

The local birth rate can be compared with the national birth rate of 18.0 per 1,000 population if it is first multiplied by the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General which gives a local adjusted rate of 16.3

TABLE 11

Showing the births registered in and allocated to this district for 1962 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence, together with the inward transferable births.

	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly Births
January	1	2	3	7
February	1	1	2	
March	2	-	2	
April	1	-	1	9
May	1	3	4	
June	4	-	4	
July	-	3	3	9
August	1	1	2	
September	1	3	4	
October	1	5	6	6
November	-	-	-	
December	-	-	-	
TOTALS	13	18	31	31
Inward transferable births	52	47		99
GRAND TOTALS for the year 1962	65	65		130

Comparative Birth Rates - 1962.

Blaenavon Urban District	-	16.3 (adjusted)
Monmouthshire Administrative County		18.0 (adjusted)
England and Wales		18.0

DEATHS.

TABLE 111

Showing the yearly number of deaths, estimated mid-year population, and the death rate per 1,000 population for this district since 1954.

	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Number of deaths	124	134	118	110	119	122	128	159	112
Estimated mid-year population	8,390	8,410	9,010	9,060	9,140	9,230	9,320	9,490	9,580
Death-rate per 1,000 population	14.8	15.9	13.1	12.1	13.0	13.2	13.7	16.8	11.7

There were 124 deaths (62 males and 62 females) assigned to this district for 1962 which was a decrease of 10 as compared with the previous year. The crude death rate per 1,000 population based on this figure for the year was 14.8.

These deaths are analysed by cause and sex in Table V1 .

There was no death assigned to any form of tuberculosis during the year, but 4 male deaths were assigned to cancer of the lung or bronchus.

The cancers caused a total of 18 deaths (8 males and 10 females), or 14.5% of the total deaths for the year. Cancer of the lungs or bronchus amounted to 22.2% of the total cancer deaths for the year.

The diseases of the heart and blood vessels caused 79 deaths (36 males and 43 females), or 63.7% of the total deaths.

The diseases of the respiratory system caused 18 deaths (13 males and 5 females), or 14.5% of the total deaths.

There was one female death assigned to leukaemia during the year.

The local death rate can be compared with the national death rate of 11.9 per 1,000 population providing the local rate is first multiplied by the comparability of 1.14 supplied by the Registrar General for this district. The local adjusted death rate is 16.9.

TABLE 1V

Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1962 according to sex, month and quarter of occurrence together with inward transferable deaths.

	Males	Females	Total	Quarterly deaths
January	5	7	12	34
February	5	7	12	
March	6	4	10	
April	5	2	7	26
May	4	4	8	
June	4	7	11	
July	2	1	3	21
August	7	2	9	
September	5	4	9	
October	6	4	10	25
November	4	4	8	
December	1	6	7	
TOTALS	54	52	106	106
Inward transferable deaths	8	10		18
GRAND TOTAL for the year 1962	62	62		124

Comparative Death Rates - 1962.

Blaenavon Urban District	16.9 (adjusted)
Monmouthshire Administrative County	13.7 (adjusted)
England and Wales	11.9

TABLE V

Showing the deaths registered in and allocated to this district for 1962 in quinquennial age groups and by sex.

Age last birthday	Males	Females	Total
0 - 4	4	2	6
5 - 9	-	1	1
10 - 14	-	-	-
15 - 19	1	-	1
20 - 24	-	-	-
25 - 29	-	-	-
30 - 34	-	-	-
35 - 39	1	-	1
40 - 44	-	-	-
45 - 49	1	1	2
50 - 54	2	3	5
55 - 59	6	2	8
60 - 64	11	2	13
65 - 69	7	12	19
70 - 74	8	10	18
75 - 79	8	11	19
80 - 84	5	10	15
85 - 89	5	7	12
90 - 94	1	1	2
95 and over	2	-	2
ALL AGES	62	62	124

The above table shows that 87 persons (36 males and 51 females) had attained the age of 65 years at death, or 70.1% of the total deaths.

The age of 70 years at death was attained by 68 persons (29 males and 39 females), or 54.8% of the total deaths.

The age of 75 years at death was attained by 50 persons (21 males and 29 females), or 40.3% of the total deaths.

The age of 85 years at death was attained by 16 persons (8 males and 8 females), or 13% of the total deaths.

TABLE V1

Showing the deaths from all causes, infant deaths, births and stillbirths allocated to this district for 1962.

Cause 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	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	5
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1
16. Diabetes	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	13
18. Coronary disease, angina	14	12
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	1
20. Other heart disease	6	9
21. Other circulatory disease	4	8
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	1	3
24. Bronchitis	9	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	2
33. Motor vehicles accidents	1	-
34. All other accidents	-	1
35. Suicide.	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	62	62
Deaths in infants under 1 year of age:-		
Legitimate	3	2
Illegitimate	-	-
TOTAL	3	2
Total births	65	65
Legitimate	61	63
Illegitimate	4	2
Stillbirths - TOTAL	1	1
Legitimate	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-

Estimated population - mid 1962 = 8,390
(for calculation of birth and death rates).

Comparability	<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>DEATHS</u>
factors:	1.05	1.14

TABLE V11

Showing the number of inquests on persons belonging to this district during 1962 and the causes of death.

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of bronchus	1	-	1
Pneumoconiosis	1	-	1
Accidental fall in the home	-	1	1
Coronary thrombosis	1	-	1
Road accident (pedestrian)	1	-	1
Acute pericarditis	1	-	1
ALL CAUSES	5	1	6

There were six inquests during the year which related to 5 males ranging in age from 3 years to 71 years and one female aged 85 years.

The case of cancer of the bronchus referred to a male aged 59 years.

The pneumoconiosis case referred to a male aged 52 years.

The accidental fall in the home referred to a female aged 85 years.

The coronary thrombosis case was a male aged 60 years.

The road accident referred to a male child aged 3 years who was run over by a motor lorry on the highway.

The case of acute pericarditis referred to a male aged 71 years.

It is of note that no death was ascribed to suicide during the year.

INFANT MORTALITY.

TABLE V111

Showing the yearly number of infant deaths, live births, etc., for this district since 1954.

YEAR	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
No. of deaths in infants under 1 year.	5	2	4	10	5	4	2	6	7
No. of live births.	130	128	118	119	122	120	119	104	105
Infant mortality rate.	38.5	15.6	33.9	84.0	41.0	33.3	16.8	57.7	66.6

The above 5 infant deaths included 3 male deaths and 2 female deaths. The number for the year has been rather inflated by the deaths of male twins aged five months from acute respiratory infection which appeared from its sudden onset and rapidity of death to be of a virulent virus type. The post-mortem reports on each child both by different pathologists ascribed the one death to acute meningitis and the second to acute bronchitis.

TABLE 1X

Showing the infant deaths assigned to this district for 1962 by cause and in age groups.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks.	2-3 wks.	3-4 wks.	Total under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	Total under 1 yr.
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Acute Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Asphyxia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Hydrolephalus	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
ALL CAUSES	3	-	-	-	3	-	2	-	-	5

Four of the above infant deaths took place in hospitals and one at home.

TABLE X

Showing the infant mortality rate for England and Wales, etc., from 1955 to 1962.

Year	England and Wales.	Administrative County of Monmouthshire.	Blaenavon Urban District.
1955	24.9	33.9	57.7
1956	23.7	29.0	16.8
1957	23.1	31.0	33.3
1958	22.6	25.8	41.0
1959	22.2	27.2	84.0
1960	21.9	25.5	33.9
1961	21.6	28.0	15.6
1962	20.7	25.0	38.5

TABLE X1

Showing details of acreage, population, private householders and dwellings for the district as extracted from the Registrar General's 1961 census report (final figures made available in December, 1962).

Area	Acreage	Population				
		1951	1961			
		Persons	Persons	Males	Females	Persons per acre
Blaenavon U.D.	4,613	9,779	8,451	4,257	4,194	1.8
Wards						
Central	425	3,189	2,518	1,236	1,282	5.9
East	1,331	3,856	3,601	1,820	1,781	2.7
West	2,857	2,734	2,332	1,201	1,131	0.8

Private households and dwellings, 1961.

	Private households	Population in private households	Structurally separate dwellings occupied	Rooms occupied	Density of population	
					Persons per room	Percentage of persons at more than 1½ per room
Blaenavon U.D.	2,853	8,409	2,777	13,643	0.62	4.6
Wards						
Central	931	2,511	878	4,183	0.60	4.0
East	1,182	3,587	1,166	6,028	0.60	3.4
West	740	2,311	733	3,432	0.68	7.2

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The number of notifications of notifiable diseases received from general practitioners, hospital medical officers and chest physicians during the year are shown in age and sex groups in Tables XV and XV11.

Diphtheria.

For the thirteenth consecutive year no notification of diphtheria has been received for this district. The need for the maintenance of an effective level of immunisation against this disease amongst children still remains an urgent necessity and there have been a few recent examples of outbreaks of diphtheria to remind us of this. This service is readily available and there is no excuse for negligence on the part of parents in this respect.

TABLE X11 Showing the number of immunisations against diphtheria done in this district during 1962.

	Age at date of final injection (as regards A) or of reinforcing injection (as regards B)			
	Under 1 year.	1 - 4 years.	5 - 14 years.	TOTAL
A. Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the district during 1962.	35	40	3	78
B. Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection subsequent to primary immunisation in the year 1962.	-	15	3	18

These figures are down somewhat for 1962 as the routine immunisations were disturbed due to postponements on account of the smallpox outbreak and later the occurrence of poliomyelitis.

TABLE X 111 Showing the number of vaccinations against smallpox carried out in the district during 1962.

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1 year.	1 year.	2 - 4 years.	5 - 14 years.	15 + years.	TOTAL
Number vaccinated	101	55	255	1,040	3,132	4,583
Number re-vaccinated	-	-	14	149	1,016	1,179
TOTAL	101	55	269	1,189	4,148	5,762

These are the vaccinations for which records are available since they were carried out at general practitioners' surgeries, infant welfare clinics and at the special emergency public vaccination clinics set up by the County Council in the district during the smallpox outbreak in South Wales. Many more adults were vaccinated at their places of work outside the district for which no records are available.

TABLE XIV

Showing the number of immunisations against whooping cough carried out in the district during 1962.

Year of birth	Number of children
1962	35
1961	50
1960	2
1959	-
1958	-
1953 - 1957	1
1948 - 1952	1

These figures have been curtailed for the year due to suspension of routine immunisations during the smallpox outbreak, and during the period of high incidence of poliomyelitis in the County.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 2 (1 male and 1 female) notifications of this disease received during the year, which was the same number as received the previous year.

Poliomyelitis.

There was one notification of paralytic poliomyelitis received in respect of a female child aged 2½ years who had not been previously vaccinated despite the facilities available. This child had a lower limb paresis and made a good recovery but needed referral to the care of the orthopaedic clinic and physiotherapist after discharge from hospital. The infection was due to the poliovirus type 1 strain. It was not considered necessary to restrict anybody's movements in the way of school closure or otherwise except to advise house quarantine for the other children of the infected home. It was considered that the proper medical step to take in the circumstance was to offer oral polio vaccine to all between the age of six months and 40 years at a special clinic. This was in fact done the very next day when a public clinic was opened and after five days some 2,800 persons out of an estimated 4,000 under 40 years of age were vaccinated. Further public clinics were arranged at later dates for those requiring to complete the course. No further case of poliomyelitis occurred in the district. This case occurred when there was an epidemic in an nearby district and a lot of public hysteria had been whipped up by the press and by pronouncements by lay persons. It is most essential that any decisions in respect of such incidents should come from the Medical Officer of Health only as he is the person best qualified professionally by reason of his specialist training in epidemiology, in addition to his basic medical qualification, to decide on the particular line of action to be taken in a particular circumstance; otherwise the public may become confused by rumours and non-professional advice.

TABLE XV

Showing the notifiable diseases notified in this district during 1962, analysed in age, and sex groups and giving the admissions to hospital. (Corrected for diagnosis). (Tuberculosis excluded).

	Under 1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-35 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65+ yrs.	ALL	AGES	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.	T.	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. primary and influenza pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis:															
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3

TABLE XV1

Showing the number of cases of notifiable diseases notified yearly since 1948 (corrected for diagnosis). Tuberculosis excluded.

DISEASE	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Measles	-	95	-	1	4	290	3	5	-	58	35	236	1	397	8
Scarlet Fever	2	2	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	1	6	9	30	34
Whooping cough	-	-	-	2	3	1	9	-	-	3	22	2	2	49	6
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Ac. primary and influenza pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	2	4	-	2	4
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	5	2	8	3	8
Food poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neonatorum acute	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis: Paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Chest Clinic for the district continues to be located in the Park Buildings, Pontypool, and provides this service at a convenient venue for those attending. Facilities are also available at Blaenavon Hospital, where the Chest Physician pays periodic visits as required.

The Chest Clinic at Pontypool is open on two whole days each week on Tuesday and Thursday.

During the year one notification only was received in respect of pulmonary tuberculosis and this referred to a male in the 45-54 years age group. No notification was received in respect of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The usual detailed environmental enquiry is made by the Medical Officer of Health in receipt of each notification and a copy of each report is sent to the Chest Physician and the County Medical Officer of Health. These refer to certain details of the family contacts and enable the Chest Physician to make the necessary arrangements for chest X rays and B.C.G. vaccination where appropriate.

The local tuberculosis register showed a total of 68 persons comprising 64 (33 males and 31 females) pulmonary cases and 4 (1 male and 3 females) non-pulmonary cases as remaining on the register at 31.12.1962. There was no death assigned to any form of tuberculosis in the district during the year.

The Mass Radiography Service carried out one of their periodic factory surveys in the district during February, 1962, when they visited Messrs Everwear Candlewick Limited, Blaenavon.

The following personnel were X rayed with the results as indicated.

	Males	Females	General Population	Total
Total number examined	7	58	1	66
Total found to be abnormal cases	1	1	-	2
(a) Referred to Chest Physician as cases requiring further investigation	-	-	-	-
(b) Other abnormalities of the chest	1	1	-	2

The Static Mass Radiography is now located at the new extension to the Chest Clinic at 129, Stow Hill, Newport, and operates daily from Monday to Friday (9.0 a.m. to 1.0 p.m. and 2.0 p.m. to 5.0 p.m.) with an evening session on Thursdays from 5.30 p.m. to 7.0 p.m.

TABLE XV11

Showing the new cases of tuberculosis notified and the deaths due to tuberculosis during 1962, and in age and sex groups and by type of disease. (Corrected for diagnosis).

Age Groups in yrs.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

No notifications were received during the year relating to the inward transfer of any persons already of the tuberculosis register of other districts.

The death rates for tuberculosis for the district for 1962 were as follows:-

(Rates for 1961 in parenthesis).

- (a) Tuberculosis (all forms) - Nil per 1,000 population (0.12)
- (b) Pulmonary tuberculosis - Nil per 1,000 population (0.12)
- (c) Non-pulmonary tuberculosis - Nil per 1,000 population (Nil)

TABLE XV111

Showing the number of cases of tuberculosis remaining on the register at 31.12.1962.

MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
33	1	31	3	68

Respiratory tuberculosis and lung cancer death rates for England and Wales - 1962.

The provisional death rate per million population for England and Wales for 1962 for respiratory tuberculosis was 59, being a further decrease in mortality for this disease over the previous year (65 in 1961).

During 1962 the death rate for cancer of the lung and bronchus per million of the population was 510 (494 in 1961), which shows a further serious increase in deaths from this condition. In actual numbers this means 23,779 deaths from cancer of the lungs and bronchus and 2,776 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis.

TABLE X1X Showing the yearly notifications of tuberculosis (all forms) for males and females, and the yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis since 1943 (corrected for diagnosis).

YEAR	Yearly notification of tuberculosis				Total yearly notifications of pulmonary & non-pulmonary	Yearly deaths from tuberculosis				Total of yearly deaths from all forms of tuberculosis
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1943	8	13	3	1	25	1	6	1	-	8
1944	8	17	1	3	29	3	3	1	1	8
1945	7	3	1	1	17	-	4	1	3	8
1946	10	1	5	-	22	1	4	1	1	7
1947	6	9	2	-	17	3	6	3	2	14
1948	9	6	-	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	-	-	-	-	-
1955	-	2	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
1956	2	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1957	2	1	-	1	4	1	-	-	-	1
1958	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
1959	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
1960	3	1	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	2
1961	5	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	1
1962	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE XX

Showing the notification rates and death rates for tuberculosis per 1,000 of the estimated mid-year population for this district since 1938.

Year	Notification rates per 1,000 population		Death rates per 1,000 population	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1938	2.93	.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	.20	.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	.00	.00	.00
1955	.52	.00	.00	.00
1956	.32	.00	.00	.00
1957	.33	.11	.11	.00
1958	.33	.00	.00	.00
1959	.22	.00	.00	.00
1960	.44	.00	.22	.00
1961	.59	.00	.12	.00
1962	.12	.00	.00	.00

MISCELLANEOUS.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The Blaenavon Urban District is not a Food and Drugs Authority and this work under this Act is carried out in this area by the Weights and Measures Department of the Monmouthshire County Council. The County Weights and Measures Officer, R.J. Bullen, Esq., reports that a total of 40 samples (20 milks, 18 other foods and 2 beers) were taken in the district during the year for submission to the Public Analyst and that the results of analysis were satisfactory.

Public Swimming Baths.

The swimming bath in the district is controlled by the Council and is provided with up-to-date purification plant. Samples of the water taken during the season were satisfactory.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It was not necessary to have recourse to section 47 of this Act during the year to secure compulsory removal of any person in need of care and attention.

Registered Common Lodging Houses.

The district has no common lodging house.

Water Supplies.

Table XX1 shows that the quality of our water supplies still leaves a lot to be desired and the potential dangers of inadequately treated domestic supplies cannot be over-stressed.

Sewerage.

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal for the district are considered adequate at present.

TABLE XX1

showing the result of bacteriological sampling of the non-chlorinated piped water supplies in the district during 1962. The results are classified in accordance with memorandum No. 3 of the Public Health Laboratory Service (revised 1957) and prepared by the P.H.L.S. water sub-committee as a synopsis and simplification of the Ministry of Health Report No. 71 (1956).

Source of supply	Form of treatment	Class 1 Excellent	Class 11 Satisfactory	Class 111 Suspicious	Class 1V Unsatisfactory	Total Samples
Numbers 2 and 3 Reservoirs	Slow sand filtration	8	1	1	-	10
Edmund's Tank Area of supply restricted	None	2	2	3	3	10
Forgeside Reservoir	Pressure filtration	3	3	2	2	10
All sources		13	6	6	5	30

Standard for non-chlorinated supplies.

	Coliform Count per 100 ml.	Bact. Coli 1* Count per 100 ml.	* The presence of Bact. Coli 1 immediately places the sample in Class 1V.
Class 1	0	0	
Class 11	1 - 3	0	
Class 111	4 - 10	0	
Class 1V	Greater than 10	0	

In addition to the above samples 10 were taken from the chlorinated supply to the district from the Abertillery Water Board and all of these except 4 satisfied the standard laid down for chlorinated water supplies. 10 samples were also taken from Bunkers Tank (chlorinated) of which 1 did not satisfy the recommended standard. Two samples were taken from a non-mains supply during the year and found to be unsatisfactory.

Inspection of Food and Food Premises, etc.

Fresh Meat.

All supplies of fresh meat are imported into the District as there is no public or private slaughterhouse in operation in the town. These supplies appear to be adequate to meet the town's needs and there is no evidence to suggest that a slaughterhouse is required in view of this fact.

Ice cream.

There is one manufacturer of ice cream in the town and the bulk of this commodity comes from outside suppliers of national repute.

During the year 9 samples were taken for bacteriological analysis and the results were satisfactory.

<u>Grade 1.</u>	<u>Grade 11.</u>	<u>Grade 111.</u>	<u>Grade 1V.</u>
9	-	-	-

Milk Supply.

There is no pasteurising plant in the town and the milk supply comes from plants at Pontypool or Marshfield.

During the year 23 samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Newport, for analysis and 17 were reported on as reaching the prescribed standard.

Inspection of food shops.

Food shops in the district were periodically inspected during the year to ensure compliance with the food hygiene regulations.

Grocery and provisions	28
Confectionery, ice cream, milk	31
Greengrocery, fishmongery	11
Butcher's shops	10
Fried fish shops	2
Licensed Victuallers	24
Clubs	9

Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (Section 16).

There are 38 premises registered under the above Act.

HOUSING.

Return for the year ending 31.12.'62.

- | | | |
|-------|--|----|
| (a) | Number of dwelling houses demolished (clearance areas) | |
| (b) | Number of dwelling houses demolished (not in clearance areas) as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957. | - |
| (c) | Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health during the year. | - |
| (d) | Unfit houses closed under Section 17 (1) of the Housing Act, 1957. | 2 |
| (e) | Housing repairs. | |
| (i) | Houses in which defects were remedied after informal notice. | 7 |
| (ii) | Houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice under the Public Health Act, 1936. | 15 |
| (iii) | Houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice under the Housing Act, 1957. | - |

General Housing Details.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of post-war Council houses completed 31.12.'62. | 266 |
| (2) | Number of Council houses completed during 1962. | - |
| (3) | Number of houses completed during 1962 by private enterprise. | 2 |
| (4) | Number of Council houses under construction at 31.12.'62. | - |
| (5) | Number of houses under construction by private enterprise at 31.12.'62. | 4 |
| (6) | Number of houses owned by the Local Authority at 31.12.'62.
Temporary - 50. Permanent - 456. | 506 |
| (7) | Number of applications received for certificates of disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, during the year 1962. | 3 |
| (8) | Number of certificates of disrepair issued during 1962. | 1 |
| (9) | Number of houses condemned during the year (demolition and Closing Orders). | 2 |

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Improvement Grants under the above Act.

(a) Number of improvement grants, 1962	-	30
(b) Total number of improvement grants 1949-1962	-	110
(c) Amount of improvement grants, 1962	-	£8,307 - 14 - 2d.
(d) Total amount of improvement grants, 1949-1962 (inclusive)	-	£24,442 - 1 - 6d.

Improvement Loans under the above Act.

(a) Number of improvement loans, 1962	-	Nil
(b) Total number of improvement loans, 1949-1962	-	Nil
(c) Amount of improvement loans, 1962	-	Nil
(d) Total amount of improvement loans 1949-1962 (inclusive)	-	Nil

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

The following tables show the number and type of factories in the district and the inspections carried out during 1962 in connection with the above Act.

TABLE XX11 Showing the number of factories and the inspections thereof for 1962.

Premises	Number of			
	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority.	3	8	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	29	50	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	32	58	-	-

TABLE XX111 Showing the defects found in factories and the action taken to remedy them during the year.

Particulars	Number of defects.				
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Insp.	Referred by H.M. Insp.	Number of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
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 out-work).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE XXIV

Showing details of out-workers for 1962 (Sections 133 and 134).

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-whole-some premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel making etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and washing.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen lace, lace curtains and nets.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate.	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel cables and chains.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches and keys.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets other than wire nets.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquet and tennis balls.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags.	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brush making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding etc. of buttons etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosques, christmas stockings etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades.	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-

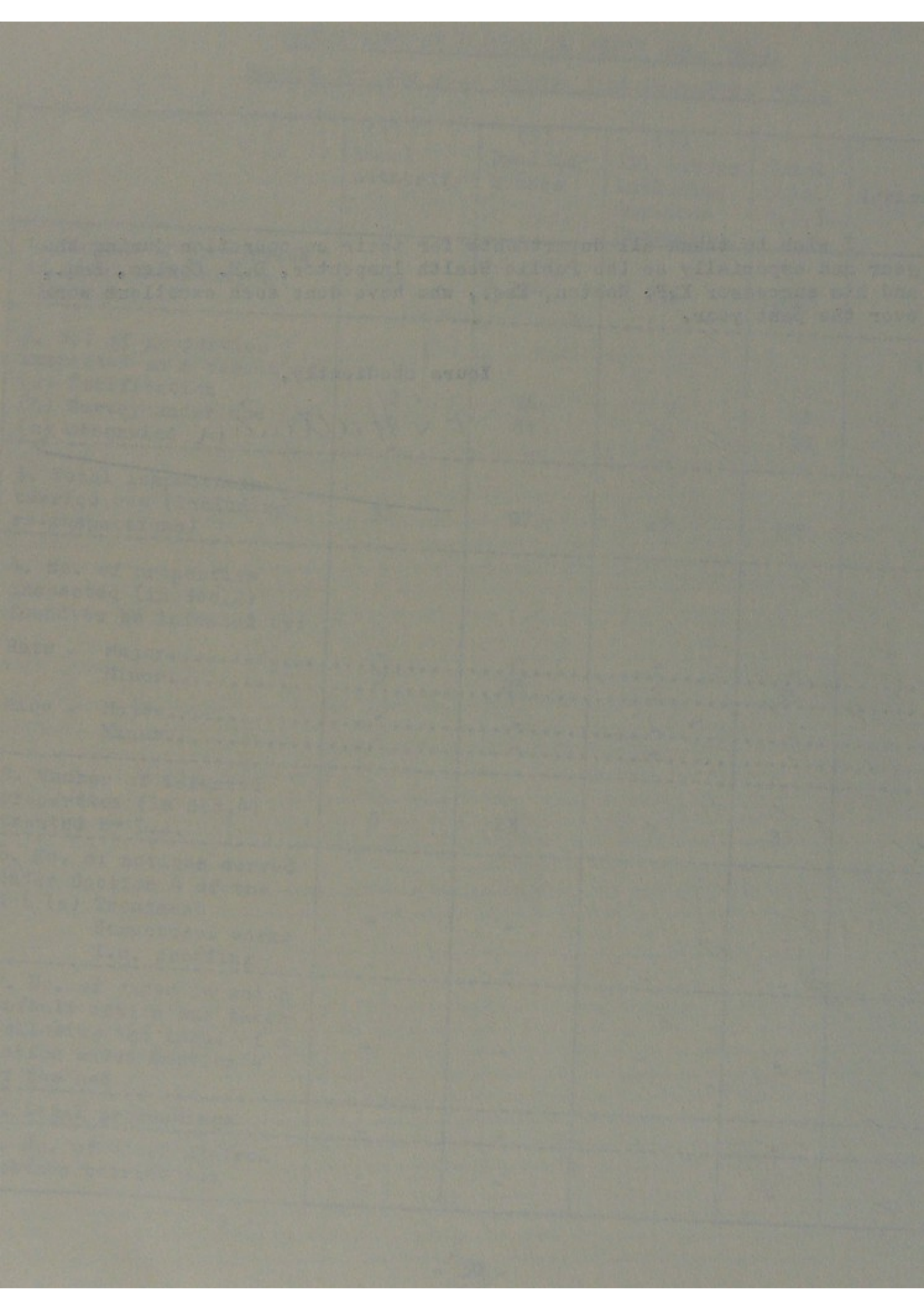
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.
Report for the year ending 31st December, 1962.

	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses	(3) All others including Business Premises	Total Cols. 1,2,3.	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district	35	2,734	236	3,005	16
2. No. of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification	2	16	7	25	-
(b) Survey under the Act	29	81	20	130	-
(c) Otherwise	-	-	-	-	-
3. Total inspections carried out (including re-inspections)	31	97	27	155	-
4. No. of properties inspected (in Sec.2) found to be infested by:					
Rats - Major.....	-	-	-	-	-
Minor.....	5	23	7	35	-
Mice - Major.....	-	-	-	-	-
Minor.....	-	-	-	-	-
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec.4) treated by L.A.	5	23	7	35	-
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 of the Act (a) Treatment					
Structural works	-	-	-	-	-
i.e. proofing	-	-	-	-	-
7. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	-	-	-	-	-
8. Legal proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
9. No. of block control schemes carried out	-	-	-	-	-

I wish to thank all departments for their co-operation during the year and especially so the Public Health Inspector, D.H. Cowles, Esq., and his successor K.F. Weston, Esq., who have done such excellent work over the past year.

Yours obediently,

E. S. Hallinan.



WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH.

RECEIVED

18 JUL 1963

A.