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BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

1940

COUNCIL OFFICES, BRYNMAWR. SEPTEMBER, 1941. terranous de deservir

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE ANNUAL MEDICAL SERVICES

AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

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BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman 1940 Councillor D.M. Jenkins J.P.

Chairman 1940 Public Health, Housing & Highways

Committee:-

Councillor D.M. Jenkins J.P.

MEMBERS.

North Eastern Ward South Eastern Ward

Coun. D.M. Jenkins J.P. Coun. T.J. Minton. Coun. Tom. Parry. Coun. E.A. Griffiths. Coun. Frank Bush.

Coun. Mrs. C.M. Gardner.

Central Ward.

Coun. W.Heaton. Coun. Gurnos Jones. Coun. Denias Smith.

Western Ward Southern Ward.

Coun. B.W.Jones. Coun. J.E.Jones. Coun. James Lewis. Coun. W.M. Jenkins. Coun. J.R. Morgan. Coun. J.T. Harding. Coun. T.H. Davies. Coun. B. Morgan.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health Dr. S.N. Chopra M.R.C.S., (Part time) L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector Morley T. Parry.

Surveyor J.G.A. Pugh.

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Dr. N.T. Chopre M.H. . B.

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T.G. E. Priett

TO BUDATE

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

Madam and Gentlamen,

I have the honour to present my fourth Annual Report upon the health of the District and upon the work of the Health Department during the year 1940.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid year population is 6448.

Mr. J.J. Quirk retired during the month of February, and Mr. Morley Parry was appointed as the Sanitary and Meat and Foods Inspector in May. The work of meat inspection at the Government Authorised Abattoir was carried out by me during the months of February and May, 1940.

I tender my thanks to the Members of the Council for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health.

I am.

Madam and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

S.N. Chopra.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE YEAR.

Brynmawr is the dormitory town for the surrounding and mining areas and depression in these industries is reflected heavily in the Urban District. The efforts of the Government in the establishment of War time industries has absorbed a large number of the unemployed men and women. The completion of the last housing scheme at the Twyncynghordy Estate did but little to alleviate the problems of overcrowding and the area was flooded with families evacuated from the bombed areas. In addition to this considerable humbers of local residents are forced to carry on living in deplorable conditions with sanitation at its worst because the outbreak of hostilities has prevented the adoption of further rehousing schemes.

The exposed position of the area has the effect of making dampness in houses a serious problem and this dampness is the cause of a considerable number of cases of rheumatism and respiratory diseases.

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Notwithstanding the overcrowded conditions, the Health Department has worked hard to maintain good sanitary conditions and several schemes have been adopted and carried through, details of which will be found later in this report.

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The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1940 according to the Rate Books was: - 1680

The Rateable Value of the District is:-19475.

The product of a penny rate for the Financial Year ending 31st March 1940 is:- 64
Rates in the £. General Rate:-19/6 Water Rate 1/- El. O. 6d.

Vital Statistics.

Birth Rate.

Live Births

Legitimate Total 77 Males 40 Females 37

Live Births

Illegitimate Total 3 Males 2 Females 1

Showing a BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the estimated population of:- 12.15

Still Births: - Total 5. Males 4. Female 1.

This gives a rate per 1,000 (LIVERAND STILL BIRTHS) of :- 13.18.

Death Rate.

The number of deaths during the year was:-Males 51 Females 24 Total 75.

Being a DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the estimated resident population of 11.6.

Maternal Death Rate.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes and Sepsis Nil.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of infants under one year:Legitimate Males 4 Females 1 Total 5.
Illegitimate Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (All Ages) 14 Males 8 Females 6

Deaths from Whooping Cough (All-Ages) Nil.

Deaths from Mealses (All Ages) 1 Female.
Deaths from diarrheoa(Under 2) 1 Male

General.

Infectious Diseases reported were:-

Scarlet Fever Enteric Fever Nil 13 Pneumonias Cerebro Spinal Fever 5(A decrease of 5 as compared with the year 1939). Opthalmia Neonatorium Nil 19(A decrease of 6 as compared with Diphtheria the year 1939). Puorperal Pyrexia 1 Erysipelas 5 Whooping Cough 15 58 Moasles

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. ------

(1) WATER The District is supplied with water from the Reservoir on the Llangattock Mountain which is fed from the extensive upland gathering grounds.

In the Summer months this supply is reinforced by water from the Clydach Springs pumped by a Blackstone Engine capable of an output of 12,000 gallons an hour. The supply is controlled by bacteriological and chemical examinations and these are made frequently.

Some houses on the Cwmnantgam side and some on the Clydach Dingle side still obtain their supplies from wells as the extension of mains to these sites is not practicable. These wells were inspected and tested and were dealt with as follows:-

It was arranged for Dr. G.R. Jones to visit the sites of the wells that were returning unsatisfactory samples. He did so in company with Mr. Parry and after this visit a letter of instruction was sent to each householder. It was found out that the pollution was being introduced by the careless manner in which water was drawn from the wells. The householder acted on the advice given, and thereafter the water samples taken showed definite signs of improvement.

Eradication of Bed Bugs. Council Houses Other Houses

Infested 0 Disinfested 0

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Housing Statistics.

Public Health.

(1) In 1.(a	spection of Dwelling Houses during the year.) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing Defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts)	225.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 1	875
2.(a	head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidation	111
(b)) Number of inspections made for the purpose	267
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so injurious or dangerous to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	93
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	30
(2) Re	medy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.	
	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers.	13
(3) Ac	tion under Statutory Powers during the year.	
(a)-	Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936.	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in which notices were served requiring repairs	15
	(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after the service of formal notices. (a) By owners (b) By Local Authority in default of owners	2 5
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts. (1) Number of dwelling houses in which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	102
	(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices. (1) By owners (2) By Local Authority in default of owner	11

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Spilled Houses

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(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders (3) Number left standing pursuant to Circular 1866	10
	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936. (1) Number of separate tenements or under- ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	
4.(a)	Housing Act, 1936. Part (iv) - Overcrowding.	
	(a) 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year. (Unable to keep recorming to evacuation) 2. Number of femilies dwelling therein. do. do. 3. Number of persons dwelling therein. do. do.	
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year as a	bove
(c)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	6
(a)	Number of persons concerned in such cases. Particulars of any cases which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.	49
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to over- crowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer may consider it advisable to report.	nil.
(f)	Influx of evacuated persons made this a problem of major importance during the year. This problem still continues.	

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

12 visits have been paid to cowsheds and dairies and 24 to milk shops and stores. Six defects have been noted and six Informal Notices served. These connected with milk shops were abated by the closing of the shops by the Police due to the internment of the shopkeepers.

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Inspection and Supervision of Foods.	
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During the year 27 samples of milk were submitted for analysis and bacteriological examination to the County Laboratory, Newport. Six only were satisfactory. Copies of these reports that were classed as unsatisfactory were sent to the Medical Officers of the areas where the dairies are situated.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

All the slaughterhouses in the area, with the exception of the "Heathcote" Abattoir, were closed by the order of the Ministry of Food.

The Heathcote was used for the killing of all meat supplies for Brynmawr and the four neighbouring areas of Abercarn, Blaenaven, Nantyglo and Blaina and Abertillery.

Markots have been inspected regularly.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	ttle ox- uding cows	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	278	1716	1114	24273	1374
umber inspected	278	1646	1114	23372	1364
I.B whole carcasos.	1	2	1	6	1
arcases of which some part or organ was condemn		456	27	1265	120
rereentage of the number inspected infected with iseases other than T.B.	1.7%	27.8%	2.5%	5.4%	8.8%
uberculosis only, whole arcases condemned.	2	10	-	-	8
arcases of which some art or organ was ondemned.	17	394	-	-	129
ordentage of the number nspected infected with	6.8%	24.5%	0%	0%	9.9%

Provalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Owing to War conditions Measles and Whooping Cough were made notifiable by the order of the Minister of Health.

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Providence of and control provident

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There was an outbreak of measles in the early part of the year.

The incidence of infectious diseases was not high, considering the severity of the winter.

A very serious problem exists in obtaining removal of patients for hospital treatment. We have no hospital of our own, consequently patients are sent to the surrounding hospitals such as Tredegar or Bedwellty at the convenience of these hospital Authorities.

There were 19 cases of Diphtheria and 5 cases of Cerebrospinal Fever reported during the year as compared to 25 and 10 respectively during the year 1939.

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis during the year 1940.

Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	nil	nil	nil
Scarlet Fever	6	1	nil
Diphtheria	19	nil	nil
Interic Fever	nil	nil	nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	nil	nil
neumonias	13	nil	5
Erysipelas	5	nil	nil
Gerebro Spinal Fover	5	4	2
Thooping Cough	15		-
Measles	58		1

CANCER.

There is an increase in the number of cases:-

Total	Malos	Females	Deaths.
14	8	6	14

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TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases. Total 13.

	ratory		Respirato	ry Deaths. = 3	
M	F	M	F	Respiratory Non Respirato	ry
9	3	1	-	M F M F	

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

The number of evacuoes in the town up to the end of the year is as follows:-

1.	Unaogompanied child evacuess		148
2.	Accompanied children with their	mothors	91
3.	Mothers alone		69
4.	Othors	•••	41
	Total		349

Your obedient servant,
S.N. Chopra
Medical Officer.

TUBERQUEORIS.

SOUTH BYACULATION SCHEME.

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