[Report 1941] / Medical Officer of Health, Brynmawr U.D.C.

Contributors

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BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND SANITARY INSPECTOR 1941.

2000

COUNCIL OFFICES, BRYNMAWR. NOVEMBER, 1942.



ERYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman, 1941.

Councillor J.R. Morgan, J.P.

Vice-Chairman, 1941. Councillor E.A.Griffiths.

Chairman, 1941.

Public Health, Housing & Highways Committee:-Councillor J.R. Morgan, J.P.

MEMBERS.

North Eastern Ward.

South Eastern Ward.

Coun. D.M. Jenkins.

Coun. E.A. Griffiths. Coun. T.J. Minton. Coun. Frank Bush. Coun. Tom Parry. Coun. Mrs. C.M. Gardner.

Central Ward.

Coun. W Heaten. Coun. Gurcos Jones. Coun. Denias Smith.

Western Ward.

Southern Ward.

Coun. B.W.Jones. Coun. J.E.Jones. Coun. James Lewis. Coun. Ben. Morgan.

Coun. W.M. Jenkins. Coun. J.R.Morgan, J.P. Coun. J.T.Harding. Coun. T.H.Davies.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time).

Dr. S.N. Chopra, M.R.S.C., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector and D.T. Jones, M.S.I.A., Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Cert.R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Surveyor.

J.G.A.Pugh, B.Sc., A.M.I.Cy., M.I.Mun. & Cy.E.

To the Chairman and Members of the Brynmawr Urban District Council. Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fifth Annual
Report upon the Sanitary circumstances of the District,
the health of the people and the work of the Public
Health Department, during the year 1941.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid year population of the District is 6773.

Mr. M.T. Parry relinquished his position as Sanitary Inspector in January and Mr. D.T. Jones was app ointed Sanitary and Meat and Foods Inspector in April, 1941.

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

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,
S.N. Chopra.
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Brynmawr has always been the dormitery town for the adjoining mining areas and the depression in these districts has had its effect on the Urban District, but the establishment of War time Industries has absorbed most of the men and women who were formerly unemployed.

It is impossible to keep records for Overcrowding purposes for this reason, and it is hoped that provision will be made in our plans for post-war reconstruction for dealing with the housing shortage in districts such as ours which do not attract the speculative builder, with the result that the whole of the burden of providing additional houses falls on the Local Authority.

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. A large percentage of the working class dwellings in the district are badly in need of reconditioning or repair and whilst owners of the property referred to are being prevailed upon to put their property in repair, the bulk of the work will have to be left until the cessation of hostilities, when there will be a supply of labour and materials available. However, in the meantime, every effort is being made by our Sanitary Inspector in this direction.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1941, according to the Rate Books was:- 1770.

The Rateable Value of the District is £20154.

The Product of a Penny Rate for the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1941 is £49.13. 6d.

Rates in the £.

General Rate 19s. 6. Water Rate. 1s. 0. Total. £1. 0. 6.

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Extracts from the Vital Statistics.

Birth Rate.

Live Births - Total 113. Males 30 Females 53.

Illegitimate- Total 7. Males 3 Females 4.

Showing a BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the Estimated population of: - 16.6, as compared to 12.4 in 1940.

Still Births: - Total 3. Males 2. Females 1.

Legitimate:-Total 3. Males 2. Females 1.

Illegitimate: - Total Nil.

Death Rate.

The number of deaths during the year was:-

Total 106. Males 65. Females 41.

Being a DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the Estimated resident population of: - 15.6.

Maternal Death Rate.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis - Nil.
Other Maternal Causes - 1. Total 1.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under one year:-

Legitimate Total 9. Males 5. Females 4. Illegitimate Total 1. Males 1. Females Nil. Total 10. Males 6. Females 4.

Death Rate of Infants under one year:-

All infants per 1,000 live: Births: - 98.

Deaths from Cancer:- 9. Males 4. Females 5. Deaths from Whooping Cough:- Nil. Deaths from Measles:- Nil. Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years):- Nil.

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General.

Infectious Diseases reported were:-

Scarlet Fever
Typhoid and Paratyphoid FeverWhooping Cough.
Diphtheria.
Erysipelas.
Small Pox.

5. Measles
76.
Nil. Pneumonia 31.
31. Cerebro Spinal Fever 1.
5. Puerperal Pyrexia Nil.
1. Ophthalmia Neonotorum Nil.

SECTION B.

Laboratory Facilities:-

Monmouthshire County Council, Public Health Dopartment,

Newport.

Ambulance Facilities:-

No change.

Nursing in the Home:-

No change.

Clinics and Treatment Centres: - No change.

Hospitals, Public and Voluntary: - No change.

SECTION C.

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 upland gathering grounds. When the need arises, this supply is augmented by pumping a supply of water into the Reservoir from the Clydach Springs, by means of a Blackstone Engine which pumps 12,000 gallons per hour.

Frequent samples are taken from each source of results have been satisfactory.

SECTION D.

Housing Statistics.

Public Health.

1.	Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year. (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing Defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts).	466.
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	766.
	(2) (a) Number of dwollings (included under sub head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	40.
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	96.
	(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so injurious or dangerous to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	
	(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fib for human habitation.	250.
2.	Remedy 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.	8.
3.	Action 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.	13.
	(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after the service of Formal Notices. (a) By owners	10.
	(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts. (1) Number of dwelling houses in which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	141,
	(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices. (1) By cwners (2) By Local Authority in default of owner	4.

THE OWNER WHEN THE PARTY OF THE THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE Tenenter Surject Co. of the policy of the property of the policy of the Participate of Popular Resident Son Spanner of the State of the State

	(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	-
			88
	(d)	Housing Act, 1936. (1) Number of separate tenements or under-	
		ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
		Orders were determined, the tenements of rooms having been rendered fit.	-
4.	(a)	Housing Act, 1936. Part (iv) - Overcrowding.	
		(a) 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year. (Unable to keep records owing to evacuation). 2. Number of families dwelling therein. do. do. 3. Number of persons dwelling therein. do. do.	
	(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year as above	
	(c)		3.
	(d)	Particulars of any cases which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil	1.
	(e)	Any other particulars with respect to over- crowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer may consider it advisable to report.	L.
	(f)	Influx of evacuated persons made this a problem of major importance during the year. This problem still continues.	

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Council Houses. Other Houses.

171

Infested - Nil. Infested - 31. Disinfested - 31.

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SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supp ly.

31 Visits have been made to cowsheds and Dairies during the year and improvements have been effected at two farms. 47 samples of milk were taken and submitted for analysis, 13 of which were satisfactory. In the case where unsatisfactory samples were obtained, the matter was taken up with the milk vendors and with the producers, through the Sanitary Inspectors of the Districts in which the milk was produced.

Meat and Other Foods.

The Heathcote Abattoir, which has been taken over by the Ministry of Food for the duration of the War, serves the whole of the meat supply for the five Urban Districts of Abertillery, Abercarn, Blaenavon, Nantyglo and Blaina and Brynmawr, and a large proportion of our Sanitary Inspector's time has to be devoted to Meat Inspection as a 100% inspection is being maintained.

The following is a table showing the number of animals killed and inspected at the Heathcote Abattoir, together with particulars of meat condemned:-

	-			
	Cattle	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
No. of animals killed and inspecusd.	2426:	1142.		1,088.
Whole carcases condemned for diseases other than T.B.	5.		23.	3,
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned except T.B.	542.		2,373.	6.
Petcentage of the number inspec- ted affected by diseases other than T.B.	22.5.	0.		
hole Carcases affected by	24,	-	7.1.	0.8.
arcases of which some part organ was condemned for T.B.	481.	4.		61.
ercentage affected by T.B.	20.8.	0.3.	0.	5.8.

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SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other diseases.

During the year the Public Health Department of the Urban District Authority made arrangements for the intensive immunisation of the children. Accordingly the Medical Officer of Health attended all the schools and, with the help and co-operation of the School Nurse (Nurse King) and the District Nurse, the majority of the school children were immunised. There still remains the problem of getting hold of the children under 5. Intensive propaganda and ca nvassing is still being carried on, with the hope that mothers will co-operate and bring their children for immunisation.

The Council was anxious to facilitate every possible means of assisting the public of Brynmawr in the matter.

Number of children, who at 31st December, 1941, had received a full course of immunisation:-

Age under 5 years - 216. Age 5 years and over, but under 15. 887.

Percentage of child population immunised.

Estimated population of children at 30th September, 1941.

Age under 5 years.

Age 5 years and over, but under 15.

545.

Estimated percentage of child population who had received a complete course of immunisation:-

Age unds: 5 years.

Age 5 years and over, but under 15. 82.5%

39.6%

The incidence of infectious diseases was not high and in spite of the war conditions, the health of the general public is very good.

The state of the s

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis during the year 1941.

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox.	nil.	nil.
Scarlet Fever.	5	nil.
Diphtheria.	5	nil.
Typhoid Fever.	nil.	nil.
Paratyphoid Fever.	nil.	nil.
Puerperal Pyrexia.	nil.	nil.
Pneumonia.	31.	6.
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	1.	1.
Erysipelas.	1.	nil.
Whooping Cough.	31.	nil.
Measles.	76.	nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	- IV	ew C	ases.	-		De	eaths.			-	
Respiratory.		Non Res		Total.		Respiratory.		Non Res		. Tota	
М.	F.	M.	F.	Respiratory.		10000000000	Control of the latest and the latest	м.		Resp!y	
3.	3.	1.	3.	6.	4.	4.	2.	Nil.		6.	

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

S. N. Chopra. Medical Officer of Head

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