

**[Report 1942] / Medical Officer of Health, Brynmawr U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Brynmawr (Wales). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1942

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/m3xk4aa2>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBRARY

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH  
RECEIVED  
15 OCT 1943  
A

BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

\*\*\*\*\*

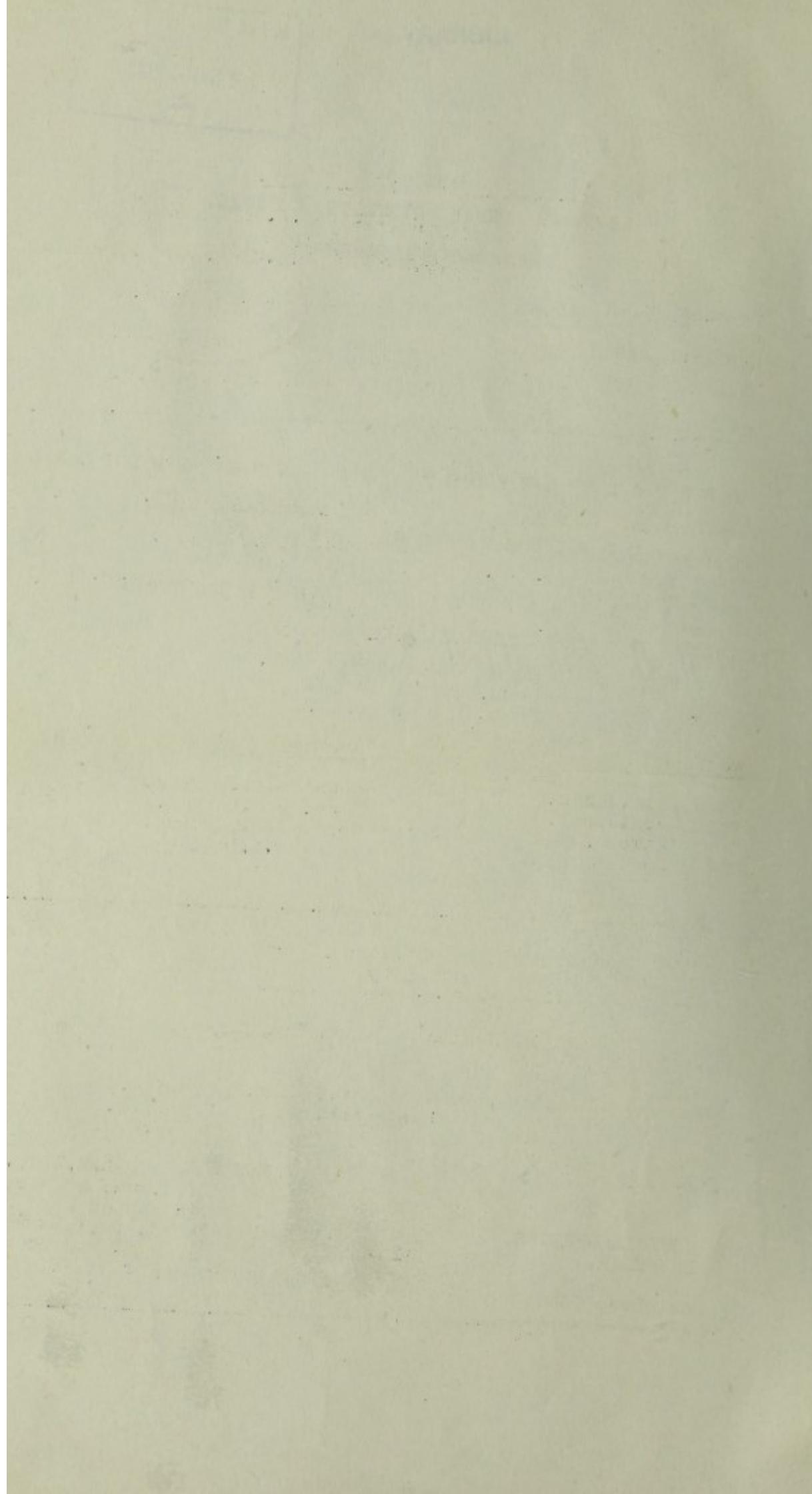


ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL  
OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

1942.

COUNCIL OFFICES,  
BRYNMAWR.

October, 1943.



BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman, 1942. Councillor E.A.Griffiths, J.P.,  
from April to May.  
Councillor T.J.Minton, J.P., from May.

Vice-Chairman, 1942. Councillor Mrs.C.M.Gardner.

Chairman, 1942. Public Health, Housing & Highways  
Committee:-  
Councillor T.J.Minton, J.P.

---

MEMBERS.

North Eastern Ward.

Coun. D.M.Jenkins.  
Coun. T.J.Minton, J.P.  
Coun. Tom Parry.

South Eastern Ward.

Coun. H.C.Jones.  
Coun. Frank Bush.  
Coun. Mrs. C.M.Gardner.

Central Ward.

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

Western Ward.

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

Southern Ward.

Coun. W.M.Jenkins.  
Coun. J.R.Morgan.  
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  
Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

D.T.Jones, M.S.I.A.,  
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.  
(Resigned Aug., 1942).  
D.E.Morris-Parry, A.M.I.Struct.E.,  
B.Sc., Inter.,  
appointed December, 1942.

---

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

1901-1902  
1902-1903  
1903-1904  
1904-1905

1905-1906  
1906-1907  
1907-1908  
1908-1909

1909-1910  
1910-1911  
1911-1912  
1912-1913

1913-1914  
1914-1915  
1915-1916  
1916-1917

1917-1918  
1918-1919  
1919-1920  
1920-1921

1921-1922  
1922-1923  
1923-1924  
1924-1925

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

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my sixth 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 1942.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid  
year population of the District is 6,529.

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 and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

S.N. Chopra.

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the Board  
of Health, Lowell, Massachusetts.

I have the honor to present to you the  
Annual Report of the Board of Health of the District  
of Lowell for the year 1940. The health of the people  
of the District during the year 1940 was excellent.  
The Registrar General's Office of the District  
has been very helpful in the collection of the data  
for this report. I wish to thank the Registrar  
of the District for his cooperation and assistance  
in the collection of the data for this report.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,  
Very Respectfully,  
Yours truly,  
J. H. [Name]  
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS  
OF THE AREA.

-----

Brynmawr has always been the dormitory 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 1942, according to the Rate Books was:- 1,770.

The Rateable Value of the District is £20,187.

The Product of a Penny Rate for the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1942 is £56.

Rates in the £.	General Rate	19s. 6.
	Water Rate.	1s. 0.
	Total.	£1. 0. 6.

STATE OF NEW YORK  
IN SENATE  
January 12, 1911.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE  
IN ANSWER TO A RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE SENATE  
MAY 15, 1909, CONCERNING THE LANDS BELONGING TO THE STATE  
AND THE MANNER OF DISPOSING OF THEM.

The Commission has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the report of the Commission on the subject of the disposal of the lands belonging to the State. The Commission has the honor to inform you that the report has been prepared and is being printed. It is expected that it will be ready for distribution in a few days.

The Commission has the honor to inform you that the report has been prepared and is being printed. It is expected that it will be ready for distribution in a few days.

The Commission has the honor to inform you that the report has been prepared and is being printed. It is expected that it will be ready for distribution in a few days.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics.

---

Birth Rate.

Live Births      Legitimate - Total 115. Males 51 Females 64.  
                  Illegitimate- Total 4. Males 2 Females 2.

Showing a BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the Estimated population of:- 18.2 as compared to 16.6 in 1941.

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

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

Illegitimate:-  
Total Nil.

Death Rate.

The number of deaths during the year was:-

Total 88. Males 40. Females 48.

Being a DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the Estimated resident population of:- 13.47 as compared to 15.6 in 1941.

---

Maternal Death Rate.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis - Nil.  
Other Maternal Causes - Nil.

Infantile Mortality:

Deaths of Infants under one year:-

Legitimate      Total 6. Males 4. Females 2.  
Illegitimate    Total Nil. Males Nil. Females Nil.  
Total            6. Males 4. Females 2.

Death Rate of Infants under one year:-

All infants per 1,000 live Births:- 50.4.

Deaths from Cancer:- 10. Males 4. Females 6.  
Deaths from Whooping Cough:- Nil.  
Deaths from Measles:- Nil.  
Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years):- Nil.

Estimated Deaths from Typhoid Fever

1941-1942 - Total 115. Males 51 Females 64.  
 1942-1943 - Total 4. Males 2 Females 2.  
 All India per 1,000 of the population  
 in 1941 - 15.5 as compared to 10.6 in 1942.  
 1941-1942 - Total 3. Males 1. Females 2.  
 1942-1943 - Total 2. Males 1. Females 1.  
 Total 51.

Death Rate

The number of deaths during the year was -  
 Total 55. Males 40. Females 15.  
 Death rate per 1,000 of the population  
 in 1941 - 15.5 as compared to 10.6

Estimated Deaths from Typhoid

Deaths from Hospital Cases - Nil  
 Deaths from Ambulance Cases - Nil  
 Deaths from Other Cases - Nil  
 Total 51.

Estimated Deaths from Typhoid

Deaths from Hospital Cases - Nil  
 Deaths from Ambulance Cases - Nil  
 Deaths from Other Cases - Nil  
 Total 51.

General.

Infectious Diseases reported were:-

Scarlet Fever.	6.	Measles.	3.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever.	Nil.	Pharyngitis.	27.
Whooping Cough.	15.	Cerebro Spinal Fever	2.
Diphtheria.	7.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Nil.
Erysipelas.	Nil.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1.
Small Pox.	Nil.		

---

SECTION B.

Laboratory Facilities:-	Monmouthshire County Council, Public Health Department, 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.

It was not found necessary to resort to pumping during this year.

Frequent samples are taken from each source of supply for bacteriological and chemical examination and all results have been satisfactory.

Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly a header or title.

Second section of faint, illegible text, appearing as several lines of a letter or document.

Third section of faint, illegible text, continuing the document's content.

Final section of faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page.

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). . . . . 513.
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 743.
  - (2) (a) Number of dwellings (included under sub head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925. . . . . 16.
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. 42.
  - (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 fit for human habitation. 145.
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. 39.
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. 5.
    - (2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after the service of Formal Notices.
      - (a) By owners . . . . . 5.
      - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. -
  - (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.
    - (1) Number of dwelling houses in which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 21.
    - (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices.
      - (1) By owners. . . . . 7.
      - (2) By Local Authority in default of owner. . . . . -



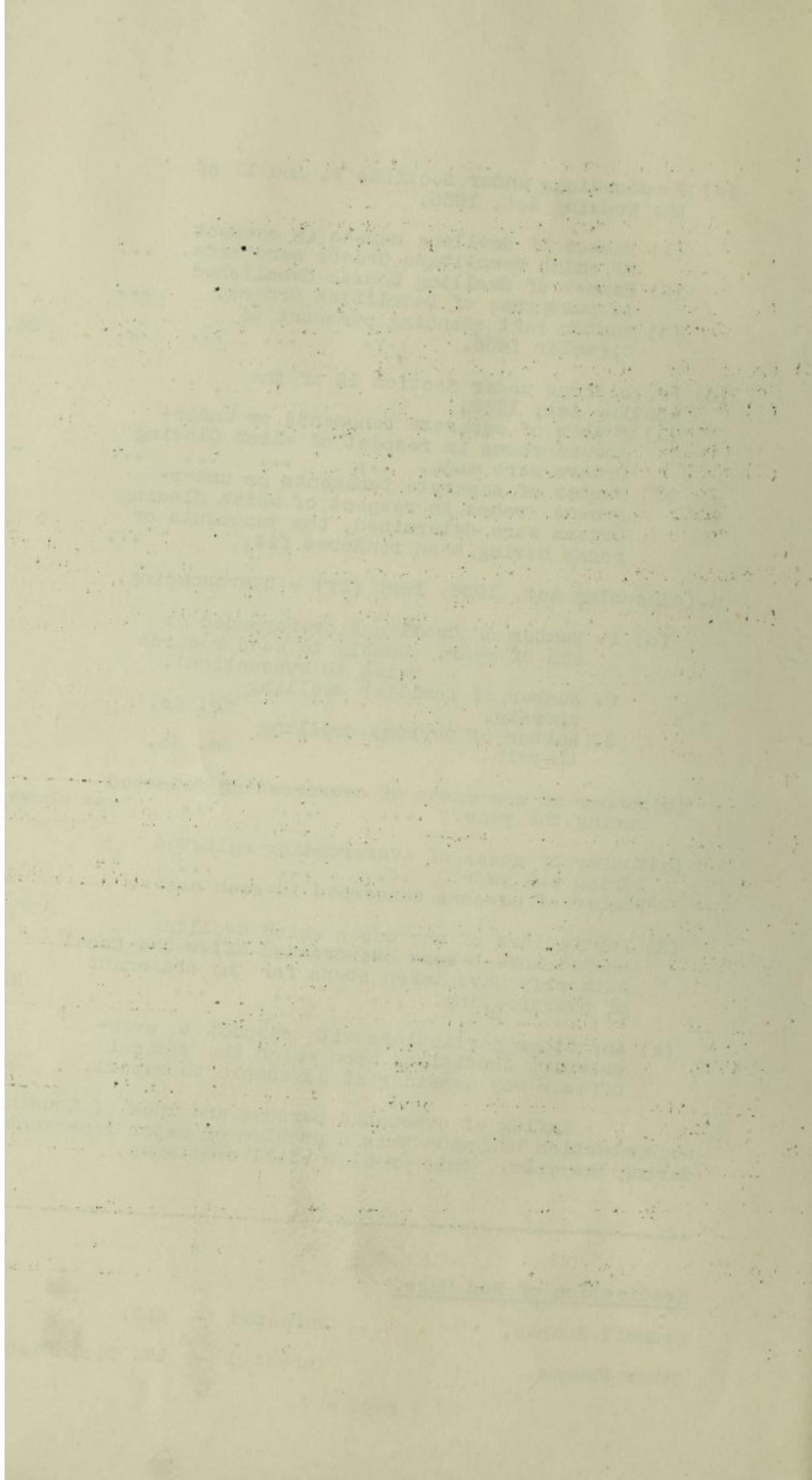
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. ... | -   |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. ...    | -   |
| (3) Number left standing pursuant to Circular 1866. ... ..                         | 24. |
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. ... ..   | - |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or 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) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. ... .. 3.
- Number of persons concerned in such cases. 17.
- (d) Particulars of any cases which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. ... .. Nil.
- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer may consider it advisable to report. Nil.

Influx of evacuated persons and lack of Housing accommodation has made this a problem of major importance during the year. This problem still continues.

-----

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Council Houses.	Infested - Nil.
Other Houses.	Infested - 27. Disinfested - 27.



## SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.Milk Supply.

29 Visits have been made to cowsheds and Dairies during the year and improvements have been effected at one farm. 12 samples of milk were taken and submitted for analysis, 10 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 inspected.	1,796.	980.	29,196.	208.
Whole carcasses condemned for diseases other than T.B.	7.	---	19.	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned except T.B.	247.	---	2,109	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected by diseases other than T.B.	15.2	0.	7.6	0.
Whole Carcasses affected by Tuberculosis.	15.	-	-	1.
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned for T.B.	252.	3.	-	10.
Percentage affected by T.B.	12.6	0.3.	0.	5.2

REPORT

ON THE

...

The following table shows the results of the experiments conducted during the course of the investigation. The data are arranged in order of increasing complexity of the system, and the results are given in terms of the percentage of the total amount of the substance which is converted into the product. The results are given in the following table:

No. of experiments	...	...	...
1	...	...	...
2	...	...	...
3	...	...	...
4	...	...	...
5	...	...	...
6	...	...	...
7	...	...	...
8	...	...	...
9	...	...	...
10	...	...	...

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 the clinic at regular intervals 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 canvassing is still being carried on, with the hope that mothers will co-operate and bring their children for immunisation. The Public Health Department of the Local Authority is doing its utmost to bring home to the mothers the urgency of having their infants immunised against diphtheria. Many personal appeals and leaflets were sent to the Public, but I regret to say that the response to our appeal has been most disappointing.

The Council was anxious to facilitate every possible means of assisting the public of Brynmawr in the matter, and I congratulate the Members of the Council on their keen interest in the matter.

Number of children, who at 31st December, 1942, had received a full course of immunisation:-

Age under 5 years	-	280.
Age 5 years and over, but under 15.		909.

Percentage of child population immunised.

Estimated population of children at 30th September, 1942.

Age under 5 years.	Age 5 years and over, but under 15.
538.	1,043.

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

Age under 5 years.	Age 5 years and over, but under 15.
52%	87.1%

The incidence of infectious diseases was not high and in spite of the war conditions, the health of the general public is very good. There was no serious epidemic during the year.



Notifiable Diseases other than  
Tuberculosis during the year  
1942.

-----

Diseases	Total Cases Notified.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox.	nil.	nil.
Diphtheria.	7.	nil.
Scarlet Fever.	6.	nil.
Typhoid Fever.	nil.	nil.
Paratyphoid Fever.	nil.	nil.
Puerperal Pyrexia.	nil.	nil.
Pneumonia.	27.	6.
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	2.	2.
Erysipelas.	nil.	nil.
Whooping Cough.	15.	nil.
Measles.	3.	nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases.						Deaths.					
Respiratory.		Non.Res.		Total.		Respiratory.		Non.Res.		Total.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	Respiratory.	Non.Resp.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Resp'y.	Non-Resp'y.
4.	7	3.	Nil.	11.	3.	2.	7.	1.	Nil.	9	1

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

S.N. Chopra.

Medical Officer of Health.

