

[Report 1943] / Medical Officer of Health, Brynmawr U.D.C.

Contributors

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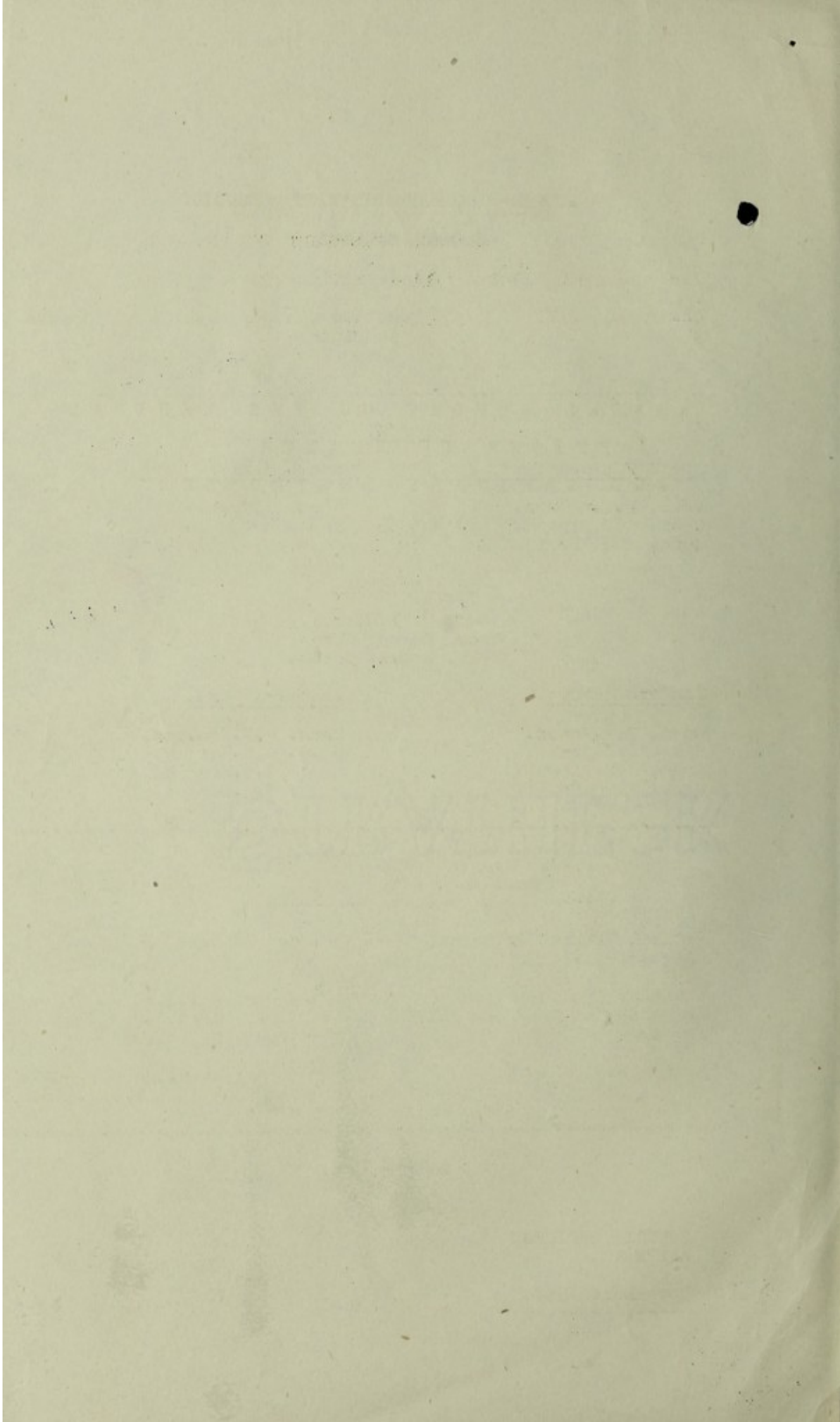
BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND SANITARY INSPECTOR
1943.



COUNCIL OFFICES,
BRYNMAWR.

November, 1944.



BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman, 1943.	Councillor Mrs. C.M. Gardner, J.P.
Vice-Chairman, 1943.	Councillor T. Parry.
Chairman, 1943.	Public Health, Housing & Highways Committee:- Councillor Mrs. C.M.Gardner, J.P.

MEMBERS.

North Eastern Ward.

Coun. R.J.Rowson.
Coun. T.J.Minton.
Coun. Tom Parry.

South Eastern Ward.

Coun. H.C.Jones.
Coun. Frank Bush.
Coun. Mrs. C.M.Gardner, J.P.

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. V. Purnell.

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.

D.E.Morris-Parry, A.M.I.Struct.E.
B.Sc.,Inter.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Chairman, 1943.
Vice-Chairman, 1943.
Committee on the
Committee on the
Committee on the
Committee on the

MEMORANDUM

North Eastern Ward

South Eastern Ward

Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson

Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson

Central Ward

Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson

South Western Ward

North Western Ward

Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson

Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson
Comm. J. J. Johnson

Medical Officer of Health
Inspector of Nuisances
Inspector of Nuisances

Medical Officer of Health
Inspector of Nuisances
Inspector of Nuisances

Inspector of Nuisances
Inspector of Nuisances
Inspector of Nuisances

Inspector of Nuisances
Inspector of Nuisances
Inspector of Nuisances

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

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my seventh 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 1943.

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.F. Chopra.

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the Board

Urban District Council

London and Westminster

I have the honor to present my report for the year 1922.

Report upon the Sanitary circumstances of the District

the health of the people and the work of the Public

Health Department, during the year 1922.

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, Sir, Mr. Chairman, Members and

Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

S. F. CHAPMAN

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 1943, according to the Rate Books was:- 1,770.

The Rateable Value of the District is £20,239.

The Product of a Penny Rate for the Financial Year ending 31st March, 1943 is £74.

Rates in the £.	General Rate.	£1. 1. Od.
	Water Rate.	1s. Od.
	Total.	£1. 2. Od.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Experiments have always been the determining factor for the adjoining mining areas and the depression in these districts has had its effect on the mining industry. 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 adding 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 built in need of repair and whilst owners of the property neglected, so are being revealed upon it but their property is neglected. The bulk of the work will have to be left until the question 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 1945 according to the 1945 census was:- 1,770.
The Sanitary Value of the houses is £20,000.
The position of a property for the financial year ending 31st March, 1946 is £24.

General Rate.	£1. 1. 0d.
Sanitary Rate.	1s. 0d.
Total.	£1. 1. 0d.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics.

Birth Rate.

Live Births Legitimate - Total 93. Males 43 Females 50.
 Illegitimate - Total 9. Males 3 Females 6.
Still Births:- Total 4. Males 4. Females Nil.

Legitimate:-

Total 3. Males 3. Females Nil.

Illegitimate:-

Total 1. Male 1.

Death Rate.

The number of deaths during the year was:-

Total 101. Males 50. Females 51.

Maternal Death Rate.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis - Bil.

Other Maternal Causes - Nil.

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under one year:-

Legitimate Total 8. Males 5. Females 3.

Illegitimate Total 1. Males Nil. Females 1.

Total 9. Males 5. Females 4.

Extraneous from the Vital Statistics.

Births.

Legitimate - Total 55. Males 28 Females 27
Illegitimate - Total 6. Males 3 Females 3
Still births - Total 4. Males 2 Females 2
Legitimate - Total 3. Males 2 Females 1
Illegitimate - Total 1. Males 1 Females 0

Deaths.

The number of deaths during the year was -
Total 101. Males 50. Females 51

Maternal Deaths.

Deaths from Maternal Causes -
Puerperal and Post-abortion Septic - 51
Other Maternal Causes - 11

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under one year -
Legitimate - Total 6. Males 3 Females 3
Illegitimate - Total 1. Males 1 Females 0
Total 7. Males 4 Females 3

GENERAL.

Infectious Diseases reported were:-

Scarlet Fever.	14. Measles.	95.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever.	Nil. Pneumonia.	23.
Whooping Cough.	5. Cerebro Spinal Fever.	Nil.
Diphtheria.	11. Puerperal Pyrexia.	Nil.
Erysipelas.	3. Ophthalmia Neonotorum.	Nil.
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 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.

GENERAL

Infectious diseases reported were:-

Scarlet Fever.	14. Measles.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever.	11. Intermittent.
Whooping Cough.	2. Catarrh of Stomach.
Diphtheria.	11. Paratyphoid Typhoid.
Erysipelas.	2. Ophthalmia Neonatorum.
Scall Pox.	11.

SECTION 2.

Laboratory Facilities.	None.
Antitoxin Facilities.	No change.
Nursing in the Home.	No change.
Clinical and Treatment Centers.	No change.
Hospitals, Public and Voluntary.	No change.

SECTION 3.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

(1) WATER. The water is supplied with water from the reservoir on the Mountain, which is fed from the ground surface. When the need arises, this supply is augmented by means of water from the reservoir. The supply is augmented by means of a Mountain Reservoir which pumps 10,000 gallons per hour.

It was necessary to pump the water during this year.

Provision samples are taken from each source of supply for bacteriological and chemical examination and all 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).	362.
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	571.
(2)	(a) Number of dwellings (included under sub head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925.	9.
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	31.
(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.	218.
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.	156.
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.	9.
	(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after the service of Formal Notices.	
	(a) By owners	9.
	(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.	209.
	(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices.	
	(1) By owners	156.
	(2) By Local Authority in default of owner.	-.

SECTION D.

Housing Statistics.

Public Health.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected
for Housing Act, 1936.
or Housing Act, 1937.

(2) Number of inspections made for the purpose.

(3) (a) Number of dwellings (included under sub-
head (1) above) which were inspected and
recorded under Housing Act, 1936.
or Housing Act, 1937.

(4) Number of inspections made for the purpose.

(5) (a) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a
state so injurious or dangerous to health
as to be unfit for human habitation.

(6) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included in those
referred to under the preceding sub-head)
found not to be in all respects reasonably
fit for human habitation.

2. Number of defects during the year without remedy
of Public Health.

Number of defective dwelling houses recorded
in the course of inspection by the
Local Authority or the Officer.

3. Action under Housing Act, 1936, during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the
Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in which notices
were served requiring repairs.

(2) Number of houses in which defects were
remedied after the service of notice.

(3) By owner.

(4) By Local Authority or other person.

(5) Number of dwelling houses in which notices
were served requiring defects to be
remedied.

(6) Number of dwelling houses in which defects
were remedied after service of notice.

(7) By owner.

(8) By Local Authority or other person.

(9) By 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. ... See Section ... A - Page 3.

2. Number of families dwelling therein. "

3. Number of persons dwelling therein. "

(b)Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. "

(c) Number of cases c overcrowding relieved during the year. Nil.
Number of persons concerned in such cases. Nil.

(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 - 11. Disinfested -

(a) Proceedings under Section 11 and 12 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 of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.

(4) Proceedings under Section 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(5) Number of separate tenements or units of flats in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.
(6) Number of separate tenements or units of flats demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.
(7) Number of separate tenements or units of flats in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.

(8) Proceedings under Section 14 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of dwelling houses covered by the provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, and of year.

1. Number of dwelling houses.
2. Number of separate tenements or units of flats.
3. Number of separate tenements or units of flats.

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.

(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.

(d) Particulars of any cases of overcrowding in which the local authority have taken action for the improvement of the premises.

(e) Any other information with respect to overcrowding which may be of assistance to the Committee.

Index of overcrowded premises and list of persons who have been removed from such premises.

Examination of the Report.

Committee Report.

General Remarks.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

13 Visits have been made to Cowsheds and Dairies during the year and improvements have been effected at one farm. 10 samples of milk were taken and submitted for analysis, 6 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.	1,529	1,127	29,027	41
Whole carcasses condemned for diseases other than T.B.	9	-	21	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned except T.B.	118	-	1,375	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected by diseases other than T.B.	7.7	0	4.7	0
Whole Carcasses affected by Tuberculosis.	17	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned for T.B.	139	7	-	4
Percentage affected by T.B.	9.1	0.7	0	9.8

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUBDIVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

13. Visits have been made to Cowsheds and Dairies during the year and improvements have been effected at one farm. 10 samples of milk were taken and submitted for analysis, 8 of which were satisfactory. In the cases where unsatisfactory samples were obtained, the matter was taken up with the milk vendors and with the producers, through the Sanitary Inspector of the District in which the milk was produced.

Meat and Other Foods.

The Heston's Abattoir, which has been taken over by the Ministry of Food for the duration of the War, serves the whole of the West of London for the five Urban Districts of Acton, Ealing, Heston, Uxbridge, and West Ealing, and a large proportion of our Sanitary Inspector's time has been devoted to this inspection as a local inspector. The following is a table showing the number of animals killed and inspected at the Heston's Abattoir, together with particulars of meat condemned:-

Percentage affected by T.B.	Percentage of the number inspected	Number of which some part or more was condemned for T.B.	Number of animals killed and inspected	Percentage of animals killed and inspected
0.8	0.7	1	1,187	1.00
-	-	1	1,187	1.00
0.7	0.7	1	1,187	1.00
0.7	0.7	1	1,187	1.00
0.7	0.7	1	1,187	1.00
0.7	0.7	1	1,187	1.00
0.7	0.7	1	1,187	1.00
0.7	0.7	1	1,187	1.00
0.7	0.7	1	1,187	1.00
0.7	0.7	1	1,187	1.00

SECTION F.

Pre valence of and Control over
Infectious and other diseases.

During the year the Public Health Department of the Urban District Authority has continued arrangements for the 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, and I am glad to say that the response to our appeal has been most encouraging.

The Council is 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, 1943, had received a full course of immunisation:-

Age under 5 years	-	351.
Age 5 years and over, but under 15.	-	980.

Percentage of child population immunised.

Estimated population of children at 31st December, 1943.

Age under 5 years.	Age 5 years and over, but under 15.
441.	1,016.

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.
79.5%	96.4%

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 a mild epidemic of measles during the year.

The value of and control over infectious and other diseases

During the year the Public Health Department of the Urban District Authority has continued its work in the control of the children. Accordingly the Medical Officer of Health attended the annual conference of the Medical Officers of Health and the representatives of the School Boards (Urban Area) and the District Board. The majority of the school children were immunized against the disease of poliomyelitis and the children under 5 years of age were vaccinated against measles and diphtheria. The Public Health Department carried on with the work of immunization and vaccination and with the work of the health visitors. The health visitors continued their work of visiting the homes of the children and the mothers and the work of having their infants immunized against diphtheria. Many personal appeals and letters were sent to the public and I am glad to say that the response to our appeal has been most encouraging.

The Council is anxious to facilitate every possible means of assisting the public in the work of immunization and I congratulate the members of the Council on their most interest in the matter.

Number of children who received a full course of immunization in 1943

Age under 5 years	1,041
Age 5 years and over	1,041
Total	2,082

Percentage of child population immunized

Estimated population of children at 31st December, 1943

Age under 5 years	1,041
Age 5 years and over	1,041
Total	2,082

Estimated population of child population who had received a complete course of immunization

Age under 5 years	1,041
Age 5 years and over	1,041
Total	2,082

The incidence of infectious diseases was not high and in spite of the fact that the public is very anxious to have their children immunized, the response to our appeal has been most encouraging.

Notifiable Diseases other than
Tuberculosis during the year
1943.

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox.	nil.	nil.
Diphtheria.	11.	nil.
Scarlet Fever.	14.	nil.
Typhoid Fever.	nil.	nil.
Paratyphoid Fever.	nil.	nil.
Puerperal Pyrexia.	nil.	nil.
Pneumonia.	23.	9.
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	nil.	nil.
Erysipelas.	3.	nil.
Whooping Cough.	5.	nil.
Measles.	95.	nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases.						Deaths.					
Respiratory.		Non.Res.		Total.		Respiratory.		Non.Resp.		Total.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	Respiratory.	Non.Resp.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Respiratory.	Non.
6.	4.	1.	1.	10.	2.	3.	1.	1.	nil.	4	1.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

S.N. Chopra.

Medical Officer of Health.

