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Brynmawr (Wales). Urban District Council.

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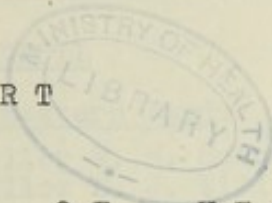


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WELSH  
RE  
24 JUL 1953  
A.

BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
(Dr. J. Tate)




AND  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
(E. Thomas Hall)

-----  
FOR

1952.

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Alma Street,  
BRYNMAWR, Breconshire.

June 1952.



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## BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council - 1952	Councillor J. E. Jones
Vice-Chairman - 1952	Councillor Gurnos Jones
Chairman - Public Health and Highways Committee	Councillor J. E. Jones

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### MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

#### North Eastern Ward

Councillor W. Nuth.  
Councillor M. Holley.  
Councillor J. R. Enoch.

#### South Eastern Ward.

Councillor W. H. Sutherland.  
Councillor E. J. Williams.  
Councillor W. B. Williams.

#### Central Ward.

Councillor Gurnos Jones.  
Councillor E. Panton.  
Councillor E. Curtiss.

#### Western Ward

Councillor H. C. Holley.  
Councillor W. G. Tucker.  
Councillor J. E. Jones.  
Councillor E. Robins.

#### Southern Ward.

Councillor Mrs. C. M. Gardner.  
Councillor S. G. Westlake.  
Councillor J. R. Morgan.  
Councillor J. H. Grubb.

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### OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health for  
the Southern Combined Districts  
of Breconshire

Dr. J. Tate, M.B., B.Ch.,  
M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector.  
Inspector of Meat and other  
Foods.

E. T. Hall, M.S.I.A.,  
Cert. S.I.B.

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To:-

The Chairman and Members of the  
Brynmawr Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the sanitary circumstances of the district, the health of its people and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1952.

The Registrar General's population figure for the urban area is 6,362.

It is my desire to express my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council for their co-operation in all matters connected with the health of the district.

Yours faithfully,

J. TATE, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health for the Southern  
Combined Districts of Breconshire.

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#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE URBAN AREA.

Brynmawr is situated at the head of the Western and Eastern Valleys of Monmouthshire and on the main Merthyr - Abergavenny road, this road links up with the Midlands and West of England.

The workers are mainly employed in the coal-mines and steelworks of the adjoining industrial valleys. There has been considerable factory development on the border of the town - a large modern factory has been erected for the Enfield Cable Company (known as the Brynmawr Rubber Company), the major portion of this factory is outside the boundary of the urban district and employees are drawn from Brynmawr and the neighbouring areas. In addition, a modern Boot and Shoe making Factory, and three Board of trade standard-type factories have been erected and although these are also situated outside the town's boundary, they employ considerable numbers of Brynmawr people.

Within the area, there are two fairly large factories, one producing Tufted Chenille Products and the other Ladies' Raincoats. There is a smaller type factory occupied by the East Wales Co-operative Boot Repairs, Ltd.

These industrial developments are a great boon to Brynmawr and the adjoining areas and predicts well for the future prosperity of the district.

The housing problem remains a most urgent matter, as indeed it is an urgent national problem.

There were 581 applications for new housing accommodation before the Council at the end of the year and new applications are being continually received. A large percentage of the existing houses are occupied by more than one family, there are a considerable number of sub-standard dwellings and many properties which should be considered for demolition action.

The exposed position of the district and the heavy rainfall has the effect of making dampness a serious problem, particularly as the older houses are of solid stone-wall construction and not provided with damp-proof courses. The majority of these houses are let at rentals varying from five shillings to ten shillings weekly, large numbers are badly in need of extensive repair works and improvements, but numbers of property owners cannot afford to carry out extensive re-conditioning which would involve many years of profit rental.



However, owners are being prevailed upon to repair and improve their properties but such works are not being carried expeditiously, due to shortage of building labour, financial difficulties and the fact that local Contractors are inclined to give priority to larger contracts. The Sanitary Inspector is continually taking action to secure essential repair works and in some cases improvements to existing houses.

The Council is energetically pressing with plans for new housing accommodation but are experiencing difficulty in obtaining sites for future development.

The total number of 'post-war' houses completed is 157, including 50 Aluminium Prefabricated Bungalows and 40 Gregory Maisonettes. At the end of the year a further 28 Maisonettes were under construction and nearing completion - these are two-bedroomed type Flats.

During the year, six houses were erected by private persons for self-occupation.

In addition, the Brynmawr Housing Society has erected 34 permanent type dwellings to house 'key-workers' employed at the Rubber Factory, of these dwellings 20 are three-bedroomed houses; 4 are two-bedroomed flats and 10 single-bedroomed flats. It is of interest to record that this housing estate is served by a 'district heating scheme'.

In the selection of tenants for Council-owned houses, the Housing Allocation Committee of the Council regard overcrowding and lack of separate accommodation as the most important factors to be considered.

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The number of dwellings in the town at the end of 1952, according to the Rate Book was 1931.

The Ratable Value of the district is £22,351.

The Product of a Penny Rate for the Financial Year ending 31st., March, 1952, is £87.

Rates in the £.		£	s	d.
General Rate	.....	1	10	0.
Water Rate	.....		1	6.
		<hr/>		
		1	11	6.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

### Birth Rate.

#### Live Births:

		<u>Total</u>	<u>99.</u>	-	<u>Males</u>	<u>41.</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>58.</u>
Legitimate	-	Total	94.	-	Males	38.	Females	56.
Illegitimate	-	Total	5.	-	Males	3.	Females	2.

Showing a Birth Rate per 1000 of the population of 15.6 as compared to 16.0 in 1951.

#### Still Births:

		<u>Total</u>	<u>6.</u>	-	<u>Males</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>3.</u>
Legitimate	-	Total	6.		Males	3.	Females	3.
Illegitimate	-	Total	Nil.		Males	-	Females	-

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### Death Rate.

The number of deaths during the year was:-

Total 88.                      -                      Males 43.                      Females 45.

Being a Death Rate per 1000 of the population of 13.8 as compared to 16.8 in 1951.

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### 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 of age:-

<u>Total</u>	<u>5.</u>	-	<u>Males</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>2.</u>		
Legitimate	-	Total	5.	-	Males	3.	Females	2.
Illegitimate	-	Total	Nil	-	Males	-	Females	-.

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### CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1.	-
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other infective and parasitic disease	-	-



CAUSES OF DEATH. (continued)

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	-	3.
Malignant neoplasm - lung bronchus	-	-
Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	1
Malignant neoplasm - uterus	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	10
Coronary disease, angina	5	3
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	-
Other Heart Disease	8	9
Other circulatory disease	1	-
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	2	2
Bronchitis	5	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	6
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	3	1
Suicide	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-
ALL CAUSES	<u>43.</u>	<u>45.</u>

SECTION B.

Laboratory Facilities:-	The Public Health Laboratory, County Hall, Newport, Mon.
Ambulance Facilities:-	Monmouthshire and Breconshire County Councils.
Nursing in the home:-	Breconshire County Council
Clinics and Treatment Centres:-	Monmouthshire and Breconshire County Councils.
Hospitals:-	Welsh Regional Hospital Board and North Monmouthshire Management Committee.



# SECTION C.

## Prevalence and control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Arrangements for Diphtheria Immunisation of children are carried out by the School Medical Service of the Breconshire County Council.

During the months of November and December, there occurred an epidemic of Measles, over 200 cases were notified. These cases were mild with no fatal result.

This epidemic was part of a general epidemic which affected wide areas in South Wales.

## Number of cases of Infectious Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, notified during the year.

Disease.	Total number notified.	Males.	Females.
Scarlet Fever	12.	6.	6.
Whooping Cough	15.	7.	8.
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Measles	210.	124.	86.
Pneumonia	12.	9.	3.
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	1.	-	1.
Encephalitis	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fevers	1.	-	1.
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1.	1.	-
Chicker Pox	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Other notifiable diseases, except Tuberculosis	-	-	-

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of cases on Register at Dec.1951				Cases notified during 1952.				Deaths from Tuberculosis			
Pul.		Non-Pul.		Pul.		Non-Pul.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
37.		5.		9.		2.		1.		Nil.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
21.	16.	4.	1.	3.	6.	-	2.	1.	-	-	-

I wish to again express my appreciation to Members of Council for their co-operation during the year of this report.

I am,  
Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,  
Yours faithfully,

J. TATE, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health to the  
Southern Combined Districts of  
Breconshire.



## REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

The district is supplied with water from an Impounding Reservoir known as Carns Mound Reservoir, owned by the Council and situated about 1¼ miles north east of the town. The supply can be augmented by pumping water into the reservoir from the Ffynnon Gisfaen Springs at Clydach Valley.

The water is subjected to slow sand filtration, three filter beds are provided and the water is afterwards chlorinated by means of a Paterson Chloros type plant.

Below the filters are two small service tanks, having a total capacity of 146,000 gallons.

The reliable output of the reservoir is estimated at about 120,000 gallons per day, but probably during wet periods about 300,000 gallons per day could be relied upon.

During the year it became necessary to pump water for the period 15th., July to the 7th., August. The supply is, therefore, satisfactory in quantity, even during 'dry-periods', and is also of satisfactory quality.

Control of the reservoir, pumping station and mains concerned in the supply of water to the Urban District is in the hands of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

The Sanitary Inspector takes periodical samples and these are submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Newport for bacteriological examination.

#### SAMPLING.

During the year 1952, twenty-two samples of water were submitted to the Laboratory, fourteen were of household supplies and eight were of untreated water from the Ffynnon Gisfaen Springs.

The results are summarised below:-

#### Household Supplies - direct from main supply.

<u>Number taken.</u>	<u>Satisfactory reports.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory reports.</u>
14.	6.	8. (Slightly contaminated)

The unsatisfactory samples were all contaminated with coliform bacilli of the non-faecal type and upon investigation it was found that the existing Chloro-pump was not operating in a satisfactory manner. The service tanks were immediately treated by dosing with Chloros.

This Chloro-pump depends upon an adequate pressure for its efficient operation, this is not always available, particularly when the level of the water in the storage tanks is below normal. The consulting Water Engineers recommend the moving of the Chlorination Plant to a point lower down on the main, so that a more positive head of water can be obtained, thus resulting in a more positive operation of the pump.

This matter has been reported to Council and they are contemplating the installation of a new plant.

#### Samples taken from the Ffynnon Gisfaen Springs (untreated water)

<u>Number taken</u>	<u>Laboratory Results.</u>
8	2 - Satisfactory. 5 - Slightly contaminated. 1 - Heavily contaminated.

This spring water is only used in time of drought, when it is pumped to the reservoir for purification before being turned into the town's mains.



### Tests for Plumbo-solvent action.

The water is of a 'soft' character and realising the possible plumbo-solvent action, special samples have in the past been submitted, specifically for plumbo-solvent tests.

The Public Analyst for the County of Monmouth reports:-

"As a result of the experiments made I am of opinion that the Brynnawr water as supplied to householders exerts an appreciable solvent action on a fresh surface of lead during the first 24 hours, this feature being common to many other supplies. The lead, however, becomes gradually covered with an insoluble coating and after four days the solvent action becomes so slight as to be inappreciable."

Samples also submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Newport were reported upon as follows:-

"These three samples of water all have a considerable action on a freshly polished surface of lead during the first 24 hours, the action decreasing on subsequent days and on the fourth day being of no significance, owing to the lead having become covered with a protective layer of insoluble material".

As a result of inspections in this district, it must be stated that few lead services are in use, the exception being the use of lead piping in hot-water systems and in such cases it is satisfactory to note that an insoluble coating is formed on the services.

### Particulars regarding water services in the Urban Area.

Total number of dwelling houses in the area	1,931.
Population	6,362.
Number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains	1,888.
Estimated number of persons supplied	6,190.
Number of dwelling houses <u>not</u> supplied from mains	43.
Estimated number of persons <u>not</u> supplied from mains	172.

In all dwellings supplied from the public water mains, the service is direct to the house - there are not any properties supplied by means of standpipes.

The dwelling houses not supplied from mains supply are properties widely separated in isolated parts of the urban area and situated, in most instances, above the level of the reservoir. These houses and farms take supplies from mountain springs which are periodically inspected and every precaution is taken to protect these supplies from contamination.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The whole town, with the exception of a few cottages situated in isolated parts of the district, is served by public sewers. The sewage is purified at a Sewage Disposal Works owned by the Local Authority and the effluent discharged into the River Clydach. Periodical samples of sewage effluent are submitted for examination as a check on the operation of the Plant - two such samples taken during 1952 proved that the sewage had been satisfactorily purified.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The system of refuse disposal is by tipping designed to level sites of dis-used workings of outcrop coal seams, which are numerous in this area.

The Engineer and Surveyor to the Council is responsible for public cleansing work.

One S/D Freighter is employed full-time and one other vehicle part-time on the work of refuse collection.



PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT. 1949.

The work of Rats and Mice destruction had proceeded satisfactorily and has been carried out in accordance with the provisions of the above Act.

Two maintenance treatments of the town's sewers have been completed and the results are summarised below:-

Maintenance treatment carried out during May.

Number of sewer manholes baited	160
Number showing complete 'takes' of bait	5
Number showing partial 'takes' of bait	76
Number showing 'no take' of bait	79

Maintenance treatment carried out during November.

Number of sewer manholes baited	168
Number showing complete 'take' of bait	10
Number showing partial 'take' of bait	64
Number showing 'no take of bait'	94

The bait was deposited on the 'benching' of the manholes or upon metal baiting trays fitted to the manhole walls. Each manhole being pre-baited upon alternate days and on the third day a proportionate amount of poison was added to the base bait and laid at all points which had resulted in a take of pre-bait.

The result of both treatments are satisfactory and it is my opinion that successful sewer treatments result in a lessening of infestation in surface premises - this being particularly noticeable in this area.

In accordance with the instruction issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries ( Infestation Control Department) the base Bait and Pisen used, are alternated for sewer treatments and the results prove the efficiency of this change in bait and poison.

The work of Rodent Control in this area is carried out by a part-time Operator. This Operator is engaged in other miscellaneous duties, but those of Rodent Control are given priority.

Sewage Disposal Works.

Treatments of the town's sewers for the destruction of Rats were followed by treatments at the Sewage Disposal Plant. It was proved that a slight infestation existed, takes being recorded at only 8 points for the two treatments. Both treatments were successfully completed.

Refuse Disposal Tip.

Periodical inspection were made and test-baiting carried out at the refuse tip. During the year, four treatments for the destruction of Rats were successfully completed a total of 95 points being laid

Surface Infestations.

Every complaint of infestation by Rats or Mice was investigated and surveys of the town periodically carried out.

The undermentioned is a summary of the work completed at surface premises during the year:-

Number of dwelling houses in the area	1931
Number of Local Authority Premises	6.
Number of business Premises	189
Total number of Inspections	253
Number of Infestations by Rats( Including	110
Number of Infestations by Mice Re-Infestations)	11
Number of Treatments carried out by Local Authority	121
Number of Informal Notices served requiring rat proffing	3
Number of block treatments	1.



# FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

The following is a list of trades carried out at factories within the Urban Area and a statement where mechanical power is used.

<u>Type of trade</u>	<u>Number of Factories.</u>	<u>Mechanical Power used.</u>	<u>No mechanic power used</u>
Printing	1.	1.	-
Cellulose spraying	1.	1.	-
Boot and shoe repairing	2.	2.	-
Beer bottling	1.	-	1.
Mineral Water manufacture	1.	1.	-
Bakehouses	5.	5.	-
Tufted Chenile Products	2.	2.	-
Ladies Raincoats	1.	1.	-
Motor Vehicle Repairs	9.	9.	-
Motor Body Building and Painting	2.	2.	-
Joinery	2.	2.	-
	<u>27.</u>	<u>26.</u>	<u>1.</u>

## PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

### 1. Inspections for purposes as to health.

	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Number of</u>		
		<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(1) Factories in which secs. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are enforced	1.	2.	1.	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which sec. 7 is enforced	26.	34.	2.	-
(3) Other premises in which sec. 7 is enforced (excluding out-workers)	-	-	-	-

### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>Number of cases in which defects found.</u>				<u>Prosecution institute</u>
	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred To H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>By H.M. Inspector</u>	
Want of cleanliness	2.	2.	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) insufficient	2.	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4.	2.	-	-	-



PART 8 OF THE ACT. OUTWORK - sections 110 and 111.

There are no 'outworkers' in the urban area.

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Referring to the cases of insufficient sanitary accommodation mentioned in the tabulated report above, plans for improvement works have been submitted in respect of one factory and works commenced. In the remaining case some difficulty exists, as the sewer is not readily accessible - this problem is being investigated as to the best means of connection to the existing sewer.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing Defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts. 158.
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 423.
- (a) Number of dwellings (included under sub-heading (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1936. 52.
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 52.
- Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so injurious or dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation. 9.
- (110 houses have been scheduled for demolition action when the housing position improves)

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 and subsequently repaired as a result of informal action by Local Authority 70.

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. 70.

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 -
- (2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices -
- By owners -
- By Local Authority in default of owners -

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in which Formal Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 18.
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices 14.
- By owners -
- By Local Authority in default of owners -

Many difficulties were experienced in remedying defects in houses, delay being experienced due to shortage of building labour and the tendency for Contractors to give preference to larger buildings contracts.



(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders           | 3. |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made        | 6. |
| (3) Number of Undertakings accepted that house will not be used for human habitation | 1. |

(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 determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit. | - |
|--|---|

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - OVERCROWDING

- |  |                            |  |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| (a)  |                            |  |
| (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year   | No figures available.      |  |
| (2) Number of families dwelling therein                      | See section 'A' of report. |  |
| (3) Number of persons dwelling therein                       | "                          |  |
| (b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year | "                          |  |

- |  |     |  |
|--|-----|--|
| (c)  |     |  |
| (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 8.  |  |
| (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases                | 41. |  |

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | - |
|--|---|

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer may consider it advisable to report. | Comments in Section 'A' of this report. |
|---|---|

Every consideration is given by the Council to families living under overcrowded conditions when new housing accommodation is allocated.

The Council consider the problem of overcrowding to be of major importance and are proceeding as rapidly as is possible with the building programme. Twenty-eight two-bedroom type Gregory Maisonettes are under construction as the programme for this year. The Sanitary Inspector investigates all applications for new housing accommodation and reports upon overcrowded conditions to the Housing Allocation Committee. A considerable amount of time is taken up in the performance of these duties.

Number of houses let by Council during the year	-	44.
Number of cases of Statutory overcrowding relieved		8.
Number of persons involved in such cases		41.
Number of cases of families morally overcrowded due to lack of bedroom accommodation		30.
Number of persons involved in such cases		114.
Number of families re-housed, <u>not</u> overcrowded but living in unfit houses		6.
Number of persons involved in such cases		24.



Repair works to dwelling houses effected during the year.

Roofs repaired	25.
Eaves gutters and rainwater downpipes repaired or renewed	21.
Drainage repairs and cleansing	9.
Waterclosets repaired	11.
Chimney stacks repaired	3.
External walls rendered	1.
Ceiling plasters repaired or renewed	9.
Stairways repaired	2.
Doors repaired or renewed	7.
Floors repaired	7.
Windows repaired or renewed	7.
Wall plasterwork repaired or renewed	8.
Firegrates repaired, re-set or renewed	4.
Yard paving repaired	2.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number and nature of inspections made.

HOUSING

Complaints received	158.
Complaints investigated	158.
Houses inspected and recorded	52.
Re-visits to properties under Notice	423.
Dirty premises	12.
Disinfestations	6.

GENERAL SANITATION

Drainage inspections	65.
Drains tested	22.
Tents, vans and sheds	18.
Factories	34.
Piggeries	2.
Refuse collections and disposal	10.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Enquiries	31.
Disinfections	7.

FOOD PREMISES

The number of visits to food premises are dealt with under the appropriate headings, later in the report.

House to house inspection of Council owned houses

Routine inspections have been carried out at the Council's Housing Estates during the year.

Verminous or dirty premises noted were dealt with immediately after inspection and the conditions subsequently reported to Council.

Unsatisfactory tenants are kept under close observation by the Sanitary Inspector.

Lists of necessary repairs noted were passed to the Surveyor's Department for attention.



## FOOD.

Bye Laws under section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Bye Laws for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of Food and the sale of food in the open air, are in operation in the urban area. It has not been necessary to take legal action in any case and I have to state that Food Traders are very co-operative in the question of food hygiene.

### Clean Food Campaigns.

It has not been possible to organise any Clean Food Campaigns and it is doubtful if such campaigns would be justified in an area as small and compact as Brynmawr. The sanitary Inspector, who incidentally is the only Inspector employed by this Council, is in constant contact with members of the food trade and during his visits to shops, restaurants and food preparing premises he has continually impressed food handlers with the absolute necessity for hygienic methods in all stages of food preparation and handling.

### Inspections at Food Premises during the year.

Butchers' shops and slaughterhouse	255.
Retail food shops	119.
Market - stalls and vehicles	37.
Food preparing establishments	81.

There is only one large food factory in the area, namely a Mineral Water Factory, occupied by Messrs. Saxon & Co., other food factories are small, being mainly bakeries and rooms used by Butchers for the preparation of 'made-up' foods.

There are no large hotel kitchens and only six small restaurants or snack bars.

### Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

I am pleased to report that there was no outbreak of food poisoning notified during the year.

## MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The duties regarding the control of milk production is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture but the operation of the Regulations in so far as they relate to the distribution of milk remains the responsibility of the Local Authority.

### Regulation 20 - Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

There was no evidence of any case of disease caused by milk during the year.

### Inspections of dairies.

During the year 32 visits were made to dairies within the urban area, instructions and advice being given to Milk Distributors regarding precautions to be taken to prevent any contamination of supplies. The trade is most co-operative in this matter and it was not necessary to resort to legal action in any instance.

### Laboratory examination of milk supplies.

There are 12 Milk Distributors registered by this Council, 11 of whom retail Pasteurised Milks, whilst the remaining Distributor retails undesignated milk.

50 samples were submitted for examination during the year and the results are summarised, as follows:-



### Milk Sampled

39 samples of Pasteurised Milk  
9 samples of Tuberculin Tested  
(Pasteurised) Milk  
2 samples of Raw milk

### Results

31 satisfactory reports.  
8 unsatisfactory reports.  
7 satisfactory reports.  
2 unsatisfactory reports.  
1 satisfactory report.  
1 unsatisfactory report.

Referring to the unsatisfactory reports, the matter was taken up with the Producers and copies of the reports forwarded to the Licencing Authority.

The Pasteurised Milk was produced in this area and as a result of the unsatisfactory reports, all plant was thoroughly checked, the temperature at which the milk in each holder undergoing treatment was tested and the bottle washing machine examined. Everything was found to be in good order and consequently a series of samples were taken at various points in the plant in order to locate any possible fault and in addition, several bottles were submitted to the Laboratory for examination of rinses. A total of 22 samples were taken during these investigations and the final tests prove the plant to be satisfactory in all respects.

### LICENCED HOTELS AND INNS.

There are 24 Licenced Houses in the urban area and routine inspections have been carried out at all premises, particular attention being given to:-

- (1) The provision of separate sanitary accommodation for sexes.
- (2) Condition of beer cellars and store rooms.
- (3) Arrangements for the cleansing of glasses.

A great deal of improvement has been achieved in the provision of additional and improved sanitary accommodation and the provision of hot water facilities in the Bars. Further improvements are desirable and these matters are being taken up with the Brewery Companies concerned.

### FOOD PREMISES.

During the year 492 visits were made to retail food shops and premises where food is prepared, stored or deposited for the purpose of sale.

The undermentioned is a list of such premises in the area:-

<u>Type of food premises.</u>	<u>Number in area.</u>
Grocers	24.
Greengrocers and Wet Fish Salesmen	5.
General Stores	18.
Market - covered and open	1.
Bakeries	5.
Mineral Water Factory	1.
Restaurants (including Snack Bars)	6.
Butchers' shops	12.
Slaughterhouse	1.
Confectioners, etc.	18.

### Inspection of Foodstuffs.

During routine inspections at food premises the undermentioned foods were found to be unfit for human consumption.



Foodstuffs condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

Canned foodstuffs

Meats

Jellied Veal	120 lbs.
Corned Mutton	78 lbs.
Cooked Ham	61 lbs.
Other canned meats	86 cans.

Vegetables 426 cans.

Fruits 56 cans.

Fish 10 cans.

Other canned foods 29 cans.

Miscellaneous foodstuffs.

Bacon 122 lbs. 9 ozs.

Cheese 2 lbs. 6 ozs.

Cheese Spread 44 packets.

Biscuits 55 lbs.

Flour Mixture 48 packets.

In no case were any of these foodstuffs exposed for sale and all were voluntarily surrendered by the Retailers.

Those unsound foods capable of being used for any purpose, other than human consumption, were so utilized. The Ministry of Food have issued instructions regarding the salvaging of certain types of unsound foods.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947.

There are thirteen Retailers and one Manufacturer of Ice Cream within the area. The Retailers obtain supplies from areas outside the urban district. The one manufacturer uses the heat treatment method and his apparatus conforms to the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947. All premises in the district conform to legal requirements and are registered in accordance with the provisions of section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Routine inspections are made at all premises having regard to hygienic conditions and legal requirements.

MEAT SUPPLIES.

The Government Controlled Slaughterhouse at Brynmawr supplies meat to five Local Authority areas, viz:- the urban districts of Brynmawr; Blaenavon; Nantyglo and Blaina; Abertillery, and Abercarn.

These Authorities have set up a Joint Committee, their function being to make an appointment and to control the Sanitary Inspector, whose duty is solely that of meat inspection at the Slaughterhouse.

The table given below is a report upon the work of meat inspection carried out in this area and details are also given of the quantities of meat and offal condemned during the year.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows only	Calves	Sheep	Pigs.
Number of animals slaughtered	2,281	673	801	18,944	1,120
Number inspected	2,281	673	801	18,944	1,120



	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows only	Calves	Sheep	Pigs.
<u>ALL DISEASES-EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	2	1	21	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	366	288	4	761	30
Percentage of number inspected affected by disease, <u>other than Tuberculosis</u>	16.0%	44.6%	0.6%	4.1%	3.0%

TUBERCULOSIS - ONLY.

Whole carcasses condemned	5	4	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned as a result of Tuberculosis	204	148	-	-	57
Percentage of number inspected <u>affected by Tuberculosis</u>	9.2%	22.6%	-	-	5.4%

Detailed Monthly Statement upon  
Meat Inspection

Tabulated Monthly Statement of animals slaughtered at the Brynmawr  
Slaughterhouse during 1952.

Month	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows - only	Calves	Sheep	Pigs.
January	111.	60.	82.	856.	4.
February	91.	44.	38.	1,205.	4.
March	93.	48.	-	753.	4.
April	112.	8.	14.	490.	102.
May	100.	11.	25.	743.	447.
June	69.	13.	20.	2,164.	135.
July	206.	48.	30.	1,200.	149.
August	374.	111.	74.	1,879.	21.
September	428.	83.	138.	2,612.	3.
October	402.	144.	96.	3,945.	67.
November	170.	62.	190.	2,079.	128.
December	125.	41.	94.	1,018.	56.
TOTALS	2,281.	673.	801.	18,944.	1,120.

Weight of meat and offal condemned as a result of diseases  
and other conditions, excluding Tuberculosis:-  
8 tons 18 cwts. 1 qr. 27 lbs.

Weight of meat and offal condemned as a result of Tuberculosis:-  
9 tons. 1 cwt. 6 qrs. 20 lbs.

TOTAL WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED  
17 tons. 19 cwts. 2 qrs. 19 lbs.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

The number of Slaughtermen licenced by this Authority  
at 31st., December, 1952 was 14 but only 6 of these persons are  
employed as Slaughtermen at the Brynmawr Abattoir.



## CONCLUSION

I gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the efficient help received from the Medical Officer of Health and the co-operation received from other Departments of the Council. I am indebted to the Chairman and Members of Council for their support and consideration extended to me during the year of this report and I am confident that the same support will, at all times be given to the Public Health Department.

I am,  
Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,

E. Thomas Hall, M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector.







MEMORANDUM

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst. in relation to the proposed extension of the term of office of the members of the Council. I am pleased to see that the Council has decided to extend the term of office of the members of the Council for another year. I am sure that the Council will continue to do all that is possible to improve the condition of the State.

Very respectfully,  
J. P. Smith, Sec. of State,  
S. P. Smith, Sec. of State,  
S. P. Smith, Sec. of State.