

[Report 1954] / Medical Officer of Health, Brynmawr U.D.C.

Contributors

Brynmawr (Wales). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1954

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/a56rkkgz>

License and attribution

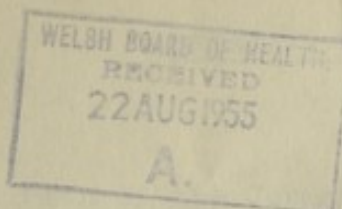
You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

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
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(Dr. J. Tate)
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR
(E. Thomas Hall)

FOR
1954.

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



August 1955.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

LIBRARY

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

CHICAGO, ILL.

RECEIVED

APR 10 1934

PROF. J. H. P. J. VAN DER BEEK

10, BLOOMINGDALE

CHICAGO, ILL.

DEAR SIR:

Yours of April 8th

is received.

Very truly yours,

JOHN H. P. J. VAN DER BEEK

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

CHICAGO, ILL.

BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council - May to October, 1954
Councillor Mrs. C.M. Gardner
October to December, 1954
Councillor Max Holley,
Vice - Chairman - Councillor E. Panton.
Chairman of the Public Health
and Highways Committee - Councillor Max Holley.

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 Gurnes Jones

Councillor E. Panton.

Councillor E. Curtis.

Western Ward

Councillor H.C. Holly.

Councillor W.G. Tucker.

Councillor J.E. Jones.

Councillor E. Robins.

Southern Ward

Councillors Mrs. C.M. Gardner

Councillor S.G. Westlake.

Councillor J.R. Morgan

Councillor J.H. Grubb.

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.,

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Brynmawr Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

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 1954.

The Registrar General's population figure for the urban area is 6,400.

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 District of Breconshire.

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. During recent years there has been considerable factory development on the border of the town - a large modern factory has been erected (known as the Brynmawr Rubber Co.,) 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 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 small 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.

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

There were 612 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 existing houses are occupied by more than one family and 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 in the older type of house which 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, 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 and 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 some difficulty in obtaining sites for future developments.

The total number of 'post war' houses completed is 212, including 50 Aluminium Prefabricated Bungalows and 96 Gregory Maisonettes.

During the year 5 houses were erected by private persons for self - occupation.

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

The number of dwellings in the town at the end of 1953 according to the Rate Book was 1,994

The Rateable Value of the district is £23,216

The Product of a Penny Rate for the Financial Year ending 31st March., 1954 was £97.

Rates in the £.

	£.	s.	d.
General Rate	1.	11.	0.
Water Rate		1.	6.
	1.	12.	6.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.

Live Births:-

	<u>Total 87</u>	-	<u>Males 42</u>	-	<u>Females 45</u>
Legitimate	- Total 82	-	Males 39	-	Females 43
Illegitimate	- Total 5	-	Males 3	-	Females 2

Showing a Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population of 13.6 as compared to 15.4 in 1953

Still Births

	<u>Total 2</u>	-	<u>Males -</u>	-	<u>Females 2</u>
Legitimate	- Total 2	-	Males -	-	Females 2
Illegitimate	- Total -	-	Males -	-	Females -

Death Rate

The number of deaths during the year was:-

Total 65 - Males 36 - Females 29

Being a Death Rate per 1,000 of the population of 10.2 as compared to 12.4 in 1953.

Maternal Death Rate

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis	- Nil
Other Maternal Causes	- 2

Infantile Mortality

Death of Infants under one year of age:-

	<u>Total 6</u>	-	<u>Males 4</u>	-	<u>Females 2</u>
Legitimate	- Total 6		Males 4		Females 2
Illegitimate	- Total -	-	Males -	-	Females -

CAUSES OF DEATH

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

CAUSES OF DEATH (CONTINUED)

	Males	Females
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	-	-
Malignant neoplasm - lung bronchus	-	1
Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	1
Malignant neoplasm - uterus	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	1
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	7
Coronary disease, angina	4	1
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	1
Other Heart Disease	6	4
Other circulatory disease	-	2
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis	7	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	2
Congenital malformations	2	1
Other defined and ill - defined diseases	4	2
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	1	1
Suicide	2	1
Homicide and operations of war	-	-
ALL CAUSES	36	29

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.

Number of cases of Notifiable Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, notified during the year

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Number notified.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Scarlet Fever	5	1	4
Whooping Cough	34	20	14
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Pneumonia	7	1	6
Meingococcal infection	-	-	-
Poliomelitis	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-
Dysentery	2	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Small pox	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fevers	2	1	1
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Chicken Pox	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Other notifiable diseases except Tuberculosis	-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS

Number of cases on Register at Dec.1953				Cases notified during 1954				Deaths from Tuberculosis			
Pul.		Non-Pul		Pul.		Non - Pul		Pul.		Non- Pul	
43		6		6		-		-		-	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
24.	19.	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

I wish to again express my appreciation to Members of the 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 $1\frac{1}{2}$ 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, the water is afterwards chlorinated by means of a Paterson Chloros type plant.

The reliable output of the reservoir is estimated at about 120,000 gallons per day, but probably during rainy periods about 300,000 gallons per day could be relied upon. The Pumping Station at Clydach Valley is served by a Blackstone Diesel Engine and the Council are considering the installation of electrically operated pumps to replace this engine.

The Council's Engineer and Surveyor is responsible for control of the reservoir, pumping station and mains connected in the supply of water to the Urban District.

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

SAMPLING

During the year 1954 thirty three samples of water were submitted for examination. 21 were of household supplies, 4 were of untreated water from the Ffynnon Gisfaen Springs and 7 from springs serving cottages in isolated parts of the area.

The results are summarised, as follows:-

Household Supplies - direct from mains

Number taken	Satisfactory Reports	Unsatisfactory Reports
21	9	12

The unsatisfactory samples were all contaminated with coliform bacilli of the non - faecal type and immediately upon receipt of these reports arrangements were made to dose the service tanks with Chloros.

The Chloro - pump which is sited upon the main from the reservoir, depends upon an adequate pressure for its efficient operation, this is not always available, particularly when the level of water in the storage tanks is below normal. The Consulting Engineers to the Council have recommended the moving of this Chloro - pump to a point lower down on the main, so that a more positive head of water can be obtained, thus resulting in a more efficient operation of the pump. This has not yet been carried out.

Samples taken from the Ffynnon Gisfaen Springs (untreated water)

Number taken

4

Laboratory Results.

- 2 - slightly contaminated
- 2 - heavily contaminated.

This 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.

Samples taken from springs in areas not served by public water mains

Number Taken

Laboratory Results.

7

7 - unsatisfactory reports.

One sample submitted for Chemical analysis proved to be unsatisfactory.

The occupiers of houses in these localities were advised to boil water used for drinking purposes.

Tests for plumbo-solvent action.

The water is of a 'soft' character and consequently samples have been submitted specifically for plumbo-solvent tests. The Laboratory reports that the solvent action is so slight as to be inappreciable - due to the fact that the lead surfaces become covered with an insoluble coating.

Few lead services are in use, the exception being the use of lead piping in hot-water systems.

Particulars regarding water services in the urban district

Total number of dwelling houses in the area	1,994
Population	6,400
Number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains	1,959
Estimated number persons supplied	6,260
Number of dwelling houses <u>not</u> supplied from mains	35
Estimated number of persons <u>not</u> supplied from mains	140

In all dwellings supplied from the public water mains the service is direct to the house - there are not any properties served by stand-pipes.

The houses not supplied from mains are properties widely separated in isolated parts of the urban area and are sited, in most instances, above the level of the reservoir. These houses take supplies from mountain springs, which are periodically inspected and every possible precaution is taken to prevent 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.

In some of the older parts of the town the sewers are brick-built and have been in existence for a great many years. The Council have recently renewed one of these old sewers, approximately three-quarters of a mile in length.

The system is 'combined', the sewers taking both foul sewage and storm water.

The sewage is purified at a sewage Disposal Works owned by the Local Authority and the effluent discharged into the River Clydach. These Works were built in 1924 and have been well maintained but will probably need to be enlarged at some future date.

Periodical samples of sewage effluent are taken for examination as a check upon the operation of the Plant.

PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The Council operate a thrice weekly collection of refuse from practically all parts of the town and disposal is by tipping designed to level sites of dis-used workings of outcrop coal seams, which are numerous in the area.

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

The Council's Engineer and Surveyor is responsible for public cleansing work.

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 June

Number of sewer manholes baited	186
Number showing complete 'takes' of bait	4
Number showing partial 'take' of bait	67
Number showing 'no Take' of bait	115

Maintenance treatment carried out during November

Number of sewer manholes baited	204
Number showing complete 'take' of bait	10
Number showing partial 'take' of bait	56
Number showing 'no take of bait'	138

The bait was deposited on the 'benching' of the machine 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 the older sections of the area.

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Control Department) the base Bait and Poison 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 inspection and test baiting at the Sewage Disposal Plant. No infestation existed.

Refuse Disposal Tip

Periodical inspections were made at the refuse tip. During the year 8 treatments for the destruction of Rats were successfully completed, a total of 192 points being laid.

The tip was rather heavily infested but as a result of treatment the infestation was cleared. However regular inspections continued to be made.

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	1994
Number of Local Authority Premises	7
Number of business Premises	176
Total number of Inspections	250
Number of Infestations by Rats (Including	95
Number of Infestations by Mice Re-Infestations)	38
Number of Treatments carried out by Local Authority	133
Number of Informal Notices served requiring rat proofing	Nil
Number of cases when rat-proofing works carried out by informal action.	7
Number of block treatments	Nil

The use of warfain as a alternate poison for treatment of surface infestation has been proved highly efficacious.

FACTORIES ACTS. 1937 and 1948.

The following is a list of trades carried on 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>Mechanical Power not used.</u>
Tufted Chenile Products	2.	2.	-
Ladies Raincoats	1.	1.	-
Mineral Water Manufacture	1.	1.	-
Beer Bottling	1.	-	1.
Cooked Meats	1.	1.	-
Bake-houses	5.	5.	-
Motor Vehicle Repair	7.	7.	-
Motor Body Building and Painting	3.	3.	-
Boot and Shoe Repairing	2.	2.	-
Printing	1.	1.	-
Joinery	2.	2.	-
Building Contractors	4.	4.	-
	<u>30.</u>	<u>29.</u>	<u>1.</u>

PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspections for purposes as to health.

	Number of			
	Number on Register.	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are enforced.	1.	2.	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced.	29.	32.	-	-
(3) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced (excluding out-workers)	-	-	-	-

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Prosecution instituted.
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	1.	1.	-	1.	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) insufficient	3.	1.	-	3.	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4.	2.	-	4.	-

PART 2 OF THE ACT. OUTWORK - Sections 110 and 111.

There are no 'outworkers' in the urban area.

Referring to the case of insufficient sanitary accommodation mentioned in the tabulated report, in two cases some difficulty exists in remedying this defect as the sewer is not readily accessible.

HOUSING STATISTICS.1. INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts. 175.
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 268.
- Number of dwellings, included under sub-heading (a) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1936. 43.
- Number of inspections made for the purpose. 43.
- Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so injurious or dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation. 12.
(In addition to this figure 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 action by the Local Authority. 53.

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. 52.

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. 2.

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices

By owners 2.

By Local Authority in default of owners -

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

(1) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. 4,

(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. 9.

(3) Number of undertakings accepted that house will not be used for human habitation. 2.

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. "

(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. 2.

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 9.

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

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding upon which the Medical Officer may consider it advisable to report.

- Every consideration is given by the Council to families living under overcrowded conditions when considering application for new housing accommodation.

The Council consider the problem of overcrowding to be of major importance and are proceeding as rapidly as is possible with the building programme. It is, however, difficult to assess the true position, as most of the newly married couples have to take up residence with their relatives, due to lack of other housing accommodation, often causing overcrowded conditions at these homes. Within a comparatively short time these young families make application to Council for accommodation and it is this factor which Council have to carefully consider when allocating newly erected houses.

The Sanitary Inspector investigates all applications for new housing accommodation and reports upon overcrowded conditions to the Housing Allocation Committee.

Number of houses let by Council during the year	34
Number of cases of Statutory overcrowding relieved	2
Number of persons involved in such cases	9
Number of families living under morally overcrowded conditions, due to lack of bedroom accommodation and re-housed by Council	14
Number of persons involved in such cases	52
Number of families re-housed, <u>not</u> overcrowded but living in unfit houses	5
Number of persons involved in such cases	14

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number of nature of inspections made.

HOUSING.

Complaints received	152
Complaints investigated	152
Houses inspected and recorded	43
Re-visits to properties under Notice	93
Dirty or otherwise unsatisfactory houses	17
Disinfestations	1

GENERAL SANITATION.

Drainage inspections	64
Drain testing	5
Factories	34
Refuse Collections - inspections	7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Enquiries	37
Disinfections	5

FOOD PREMISES.

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

HOUSE TO HOUSE INSPECTIONS OF COUNCIL OWNED PROPERTIES.

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

Verminous or dirty premises are dealt with immediately and the conditions subsequently reported to Council. There are very few unsatisfactory types of tenant and these are kept under close observation by the Sanitary Inspector.

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

FOOD.

FOOD PREMISES.

During the year 270 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:-

<u>Type of food premise.</u>	<u>Number in area.</u>
Grocers	24.
Groengrocers and Wet Fish Shops	5.
General Stores	18.
Market - covered and open	1.
Bakeries	5.
Mineral Water Manufacture	1.
Restaurants (including Snack Bars)	5.
Butchers' shops	12.
Slaughterhouse	1.
Confectioners, etc.	19.

Food Premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Preparation, manufacture and storage of preserved foods (cooked meats, etc., in connection with Butchery Businesses)	3.
Fried Fish Shops	4.
Manufacture of Ice Cream	1.
Storage and sale of Ice Cream	18.

A total of 111 inspections were made at such premises, the Sanitary Inspector stressing the need for a high standard of personal hygiene by food handlers.

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 are in operation in the urban area. It has not been necessary to take legal action as generally, food traders are co-operative in the question of food hygiene.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

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

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947 to 1952.

There are eighteen registered retailers and one manufacturer of Ice Cream within the urban area. The Retailers obtain supplies mainly from the large Ice Cream Companies who have Depots sited in various parts of the country from which frequent deliveries to small traders are made. The one manufacturer uses the heat treatment method and his apparatus conforms to the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 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 to all premises having regard to hygienic conditions and legal requirements.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 9 persons licenced as Dealers in Pasteurised Milk in accordance with the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949 and 2 Dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

All milk sold in the area in 'pasteurised' and supplied mainly by large Dairy Companies having Pasteurisation Plants in the neighbouring towns. There is one such Dairy within the urban area.

Inspections at Dairies. During the year 28 visits were made to dairies for inspection of plant, utensils and premises. The trade is most co-operative in the question of clean milk production and it was not necessary to resort to legal action in any instance.

Laboratory examination of Milk Supplies. Forty-nine samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination during the year and the results are summarised below:-

Number of samples conforming to the standards for Pasteurised Milks	42.
---------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

Number of samples <u>not</u> conforming to the standard	7.
---------------------------------------------------------	----

Milk.

In order to check upon the unsatisfactory reports, two samples of milk before pasteurisation were submitted for examination, and both these samples failed to pass the required standard, indicating that the milk was below a satisfactory standard of cleanliness.

As a further check, five bottles after being sterilized, were submitted for an examination of rinses and the results were not entirely satisfactory.

Action was taken as a result of these investigations and subsequent samples gave satisfactory results.

Licensed Hotels and Inns.

There are 24 Licensed Houses in the urban area and routine inspections have been carried out at all premises, particular attention being given to sanitary accommodation, methods of cleansing of glasses and condition of cellars, etc.

Inspection of Foodstuffs.

During routine inspections at food premises the undermentioned foods were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Canned Foods.

<u>Meats.</u>	Jellied Veal	36 lbs.
	Sausages	14 lbs.
	Cooked Ham	104 lbs.
	Other canned meats	64 cans.
	Vegetables	7 cans.
	Fruits	66 cans.
	Other canned foods	31 cans.

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs.

Bacon	12 lbs. 12 ozs.
Cheese	13 lbs. 4 ozs.
Raw Pork	21 lbs.
Fish	13 cans.
Milk	71 cans.
Cream	4 cans.
Tomatoes	83 cans.

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

These unsound foods capable of being used for any purpose other than for human consumption were so utilised (i.e. for animal feeding), other wise the foods were disposed of by burying in the Council's Refuse Disposal tip.

Meat Supplies.

In July, 1954 Government control of the Slaughterhouse ceased and the premises were taken over by a Wholesale Meat Supply Company, known as Messrs. Weeks (Brynmawr) Ltd.,

As a result of the operations of this Company the supply of meat from Brynmawr was greatly increased, many additional areas to those served during ' control ' are now being supplied. An indication of the inspection work involved can be obtained by examination of the detailed monthly statement given over the page (Page 17) - especially noting the increase in number of the animals slaughtered from July to December.

The table given below is a report upon the work of meat inspection work 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	3,012	785	1,548	34,082	9,954
Number inspected	3,012	785	1,548	34,082	9,954

Detailed Monthly Statement upon
numbers of animals slaughtered.

Month	Cattle - excluding Cows	Cows only	Calves	Shoop	Pigs
January	126	47	220	1747	478
February	105	75	199	1487	527
March	72	48	38	873	405
April	143	44	103	782	622
May	170	44	65	684	604
June	103	60	13	3106	439
July	358	93	157	3863	467
August	308	50	73	4011	562
September	326	63	276	4288	798
October	434	87	195	5881	1450
November	363	83	136	3899	1559
December	504	91	73	3470	2043
Totals	3012	785	1548	34082	9954

Weight of meat and offal condemned as a result of diseases
and other conditions excluding Tuberculosis:-

Carcase Meat	2047 lbs.
Offal	22501 lbs.

Weight of meat and offal condemned as a result of Tuberculosis:-

Carcase Meat	10596 lbs.
Offal	10073 lbs.

TOTAL WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED.

45,217 lbs - 20 ton 3 cwts 2 grs 25 lbs.

Percentage of number inspected
affected by disease, other than
Tuberculosis

Cattle excluding Cows	Cows only	Calves	Sheep	Pigs.
1	1	-	23	1
500	307	1	1231	63
16.6	39.2	0.06	3.7	0.6

Percentage of number inspected
affected by Tuberculosis.

Cattle excluding Cows	Cows only	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
3.	4.	-	-	2.
142.	141.	-	-	281.
4.8	18.5	-	-	2.8

Beef - 88 lbs.
Offal - 80 lbs.
Canned Corned Beef - 21 x 6 lb
cans
= 126 lbs.

The Public Health Authorities at Newport have been notified of this arrangement in order that the conditions imposed by the Ministry of Food in Circular MF 21/53 are complied with.

The number of slaughtermen licenced by this Council at 31st., December, 1954 was 20 but only 8 of these persons are employed as slaughtermen at the Brynmawr Abattoir.

CONCLUSION.

The Public Health Department gratefully acknowledges and appreciates the co-operation received from other Departments of the Council and is indebted to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their support and consideration extended during the year of this report.

Yours obediently,

J. TATE,

Medical Officer of Health.

E.T. HALL,

Sanitary Inspector.

CONFIDENTIAL

The following information was obtained from the records of the Central Intelligence Agency and is being furnished to you for your information. It is to be understood that this information is being furnished to you in confidence and is not to be disclosed to any other person without the express written consent of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Yours obediently,

J. Edgar

Special Agent in Charge

F. B. I.

Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover

Director

Enclosure

100-100000

100-100000

100-100000