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Contributors

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**THE BRYNMAWR
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The ANNUAL REPORTS


of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Public Health Inspector

Year ended 31st December, 1958.



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BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1958.

Chairman of the Council	-	Councillor J. Roger Morgan J.P., (December to May)
	-	Councillor W.G. Tucker J.P., (May to December)
Vice-Chairman	-	Councillor Gurnos Jones
Chairman of the Public Health & Housing Committee	-	Councillor Max Holley

-----oOo-----

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

North-Eastern Ward

Councillor G.H. Jayne
Councillor Max Holley
Councillor J.R. Enoch

South-Eastern Ward

Councillor W.H. Sutherland
Councillor J.R. Morgan
Councillor W.B. Williams

Central Ward

Councillor Gurnos Jones
Councillor E.J. Panton
Councillor G. Phillips

Western Ward

Councillor J.H. Lewis
Councillor W.G. Tucker
Councillor R. Powell
Councillor F.J. Sims

Southern Ward

Councillor Mrs. M. Pryce
Councillor S. Harding
Councillor J.R. Morgan
Councillor Mrs. W. Grubb

-----oOo-----

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health for the Southern Combined Districts of Breconshire	-	Dr. J. Tate, M.B., BCh., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods	-	D.A. Jones, C.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A., A.I.Hsg.
Meat Inspector	-	J. Russell Parry, M.P.H.I.A., C.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E.,

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the

BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

for the Year 1958.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Brynmawr Urban District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies 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 1958.

The Registrar General's population figure for the urban area is 6,420. This figure shows an increase of 40 over 1957.

The following changes took place in Council Members and Staff during the year.

In May Councillors M.L. Slade, E.J. Williams and A.J. Rees left the Council and were replaced by Councillors R. Powell, John R. Morgan and S. Harding respectively.

In March Mr. Goronwy Jones who had been appointed on 31st., December, 1956, to assist in the Slum Clearance Programme left to take up an appointment with Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., Ltd., in London.

The general health of the District during the year has been very good with an absence of any serious epidemic disease.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis notified was small these cases being promptly admitted to Sanatoria by the Chest Physician.

It had not been necessary to take action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 during the year.

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.

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 main employment is in the coal and steel industries which are situated in the adjoining districts. In addition, there are several factories in the nearby districts. Brynmawr Rubber Company commenced work on a large warehouse within the urban area in 1957 and was nearly completed and in full use by the end of the year.

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 Limited.

These industrial developments are a great boon to Brynmawr and the adjoining areas. One has only to read through some of the old Reports, particularly of the decade 1930 - 1940 to appreciate how pleasant my duty is to be able to report that with full employment has come stability, health and vigour to the town. In fact, the statistics indicate this rising trend not only in population, but they also show how the housing situation has improved over the years. The following figures may be of interest :-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>Number of Houses.</u>	<u>Birth Rate.</u>	<u>Death Rate.</u>
1921	8538			
1931	7285	1650	15.74	15.7
1932	7303		15.74	13.5
1933	7210	1745	13.8	10.8
1934	7110	1745	14.77	12.94
1935	6976	1728	14.04	13.04
1936			15.82	11.9
1937	6692		14.5	15.84
1938	6622	1600	16.01	15.25
1940	6448	1680	12.15	11.6
1941			16.6	15.6
1942	6529	1770	18.2	13.47
1943		1770	15.9	15.8
1944	6281	1770	18.0	10.7
1945	6231	1770	13.8	15.6
1946	6368	1770	17.7	15.9
1947	6341		20.8	13.6
1948	6540	1875	19.1	13.9
1949	6569	1842	17.7	12.3
1950	6625	1873	14.6	13.6
1951	6434	1886	16.0	16.8
1952	6362	1931	15.6	13.8
1953	6362	1958	15.4	12.4
1954	6400	1994	13.6	10.2
1955	6380	2023	14.9	9.97
1956	6350	2013	15.43	13.75
1957	6380	2026	13.95	12.76
1958	6420	2100	15.58	13.71

In spite of slum clearance and rehousing of families in new estates, the housing problem, albeit somewhat alleviated by this action, does remain. The worst of the houses have been or are now being dealt with, but the younger generation in turn marry, beget children and demand not only houses, but houses of a higher standard. This, although a problem is a healthy sign as it indicates a stable community with a progressive and positive outlook. Better standards are obvious as a comparison of the population and housing figures for 1931 and 1958 will show, viz., in 1931 a population of 7285 lived in 1650 houses or an average of 4.4 persons per house. This figure for 1958 is 3.06 persons per house. I am also sure that the standard of amenities to the houses has improved. A house with a bath, an indoor or adjacent water closet and other facilities are rapidly becoming the generally accepted standard for housing. The modern housewife demands many labour saving devices and most houses have them. This improvement not only takes place inside the house; the external walls, doors and windows are cleaner, neater and show evidence of pride and the overall effect of prosperity in the community,

Slum Clearance has, however, been the key-note of the year. This work has gone hand in hand with the Council's Building Programme of the 134 houses to be built on the Bryn Farm Estate commenced in May/June 1957, 114 were completed by the end of the year, together with two flats at Hill Crest, and 4 houses at Noddfa, Somerset Street. The number of families rehoused was 100 consisting of 322 persons. This, I consider, an excellent achievement and one which I consider the Council should quite justifiably be proud.

This, however, is far from the complete picture as further rebuilding is contemplated on several sites. Additional houses and flats at Bryn Farm Estate, and houses or flats at King Street, Somerset Street, Glamorgan Street, Clydach Street and at Hill Street, are to be built within the next year or two.

The position regarding housing at the end of December was as follows :-

Total No. of Dwellings according to Rate Book on 31st December, 1957	...	...	2026
No. of Council-owned houses built during 1958	...	...	120
No. of places converted into flats by the Council during 1958	...	...	Nil
No. of new private houses built during 1958	...	...	4
TOTAL:	...	...	2150
			=====

No. of Houses Demolished	...	17
No. of Houses Closed	...	21
No. of Part-Premises Closed	...	13
		—
		51
Less Closing Order Determined	...	1
		—
<u>T O T A L</u> : Number of Houses Demolished or Closed	...	50
		==
<u>T O T A L</u> : Number of Dwellings in area on 31:12:58	...	2100
Number of Council owned Dwellings (included in the above Total)	...	667
Rateable Value of District	...	£41,254
Product of a Penny Rate for the Financial Year Ended 31st March, 1958	...	£171. 17s. 10d.
Rates in the £:		
General Rate	...	£1. 8s. 4d.
Water Rate	2/2d. in the £	
with a minimum of	£1	
50% extra for Trade Purposes.		
Area of District in Acres	... ..	1,454 acres.

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

<u>B I R T H S</u> :	B R Y N M A W R U.D.C.			BRECONSHIRE C.COUNCIL
	Male	Female	Total	Total
No. of Legitimate Live Births	46	53	99	775
No. of Illegitimate Live Births	1	-	1	21
Total Live Births			100	796
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 1958			15.58	14.21
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 1957			13.95	14.95
Registrar General's Comparability Factor			1.00	

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

(Continued)

B I R T H S: (Continued)	B R Y N M A W R U.D.C.			BRECONSHIRE C.COUNCIL
	Male	Female	Total	Total
No. of Still Births Legitimate	-	3	3	23
No. of Still Births Illegitimate	-	-	Nil	Nil
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births:			1.00	2.63
Total Live and Still Births	47	56	103	819
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births:			29.12	28.08
D E A T H S:				
Deaths taking place within District	31	26	57	
Deaths taking place outside of District and transferred in:	19	13	32	
Less Deaths transferred out		1	1	
Nett Total Deaths for District	50	38	88	690
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population			13.71	12.3
Registrar General's Comparability Factor			1.09	1.00
Corrected Death Rate			14.94	12.3
MATERNAL MORTALITY:				
Deaths from Puerpural Causes		Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaths from other Maternal Causes		Nil	Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births:			Nil	Nil
INFANT MORTALITY:				
Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age :-				
Legitimate	3	2	5	17
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births :-				
Total			50.00	21.35
Legitimate			50.00	20.64
Illegitimate			Nil	47.61

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

(Continued)

	B R Y N M A W R U.D.C.			BRECONSHIRE C. COUNCIL
	Male	Female	Total	Total
<u>NEO NATAL MORTALITY:</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:-				
Legitimate	2	2	4	11
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Total	2	2	4	12
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births:			40.0	15.07
<u>CANCER DEATHS:</u>				
No. Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms and Lymphatic Neoplasms :	8	5	13	116
Cancer Death Rate			2.02	2.07

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil
Syphilitic Disease	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
Meningococcal Infections	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
Measles	Nil	Nil
Other infective and parasitic disease	Nil	Nil
Malignant Neoplasm of stomach	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm - lung bronchus	Nil	Nil
Malignant Neoplasm - breast	Nil	1
Malignant Neoplasm - uterus	Nil	Nil
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	5	3
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	Nil
Diabetes	Nil	2
Vascular Lesions of nervous system	5	7
Coronary disease, angina	6	5
To be Carried Forward	20	19

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Continued)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Brought Forward: ...	20	19
Hypertension with Heart Disease	Nil	1
Other Heart Diseases	12	8
Other circulatory disease	1	1
Influenza	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	5	1
Bronchitis	6	5
Other Diseases of respiratory system	1	Nil
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	Nil
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	Nil
Nephritis and Nephrosis	Nil	Nil
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	Nil
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	Nil	Nil
Congenital Malformations	Nil	Nil
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	3
Motor vehicle accidents	Nil	Nil
All other accidents	1	Nil
Suicide	Nil	Nil
Homicide and Operations of War	Nil	Nil
	—	—
ALL CAUSES =	50	38
	===	===

PUBLIC ANALYST: Dr. G.V. James, M.B.E.,
69 Dock Street, Newport, Mon.
(Newport 63035).

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE: Dr. Gray,
The Public Health Laboratories,
Clytha Square, Newport, Mon.
(Newport 65431).

AMBULANCE FACILITIES: The Breconshire County Council
have stationed an ambulance in
George Street, Brynmawr. If
this ambulance is engaged, the
call is passed to the ambulance
stationed at Crickhowell, Brecs.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE: The Clinic is situated at Bailey
Street, Brynmawr, and is attended
by the County Medical Officer of
Health and his assistant Medical
Officers, and by Nurse E.G. Morgan
the Health Visitor. There are 3
other County Council Midwives in
this District.
(Brynmawr 254).

WELFARE: The District Welfare Officer, Mr,
John Davies, has an office in Bailey
Street, Brynmawr, and also lives in
the town. The Breconshire County
Council have facilities for Part III
Accommodation under the National
Assistance Act at the Cockcroft House,
Hay, and Crawshay House, Brynmawr. No
cases were dealt with under Section 47
of the Act during this year.
(Brynmawr 268).

ISOLATION HOSPITALS: Infectious diseases requiring hospit-
alisation are admitted to Gelligaer
Isolation Hospital or to Alt-yr-yn
Isolation Hospital, Newport, Mon.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTION
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
notified during the year:

Disease	Breconshire Cty. Council TOTAL	BRYNMAWR U.D.C.		
		Total No. Notified	Males	Females
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	36	3	3	Nil
Non-Pul. Tuberculosis	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	54	8	3	5
Whooping Cough	51	36	17	19
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Measles	773	78	40	38
Pneumonia	7	5	3	2
Meningococcal Infection	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Poliomyelitis	2	2	1	1
Encephalitis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Small Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Paratyphoid Fever	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Enteric Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	4	2	1	1
Chicken Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Malaria	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Notifiable Diseases except Tuberculosis:	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFIED DURING 1958.

Age and Sex Classification.

Ages	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles	
					Paralytic		Non. Para			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year			5	3					4	-
1 year			-	-	1				6	4
2 years			-	4					4	4
3 years		2	3	3					4	8
4 years		1	2	1					6	3
5 - 9 years	1	2	7	7				1	14	16
10 - 14 years	2		-	1					2	2
15 - 24 years			-	-					-	1
TOTAL: (All Ages)	3	5	17	19	1			1	40	38

Ages	Acute Pneumonia		Acute Enceph- alitis				Erysi- pelas		Tuberculosis			
			Infect.		Post.Inf.				Respity		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	1											
5 - 14 years												
15- 44 years		1										
45- 64 tears	1	1					1		2			
65 & Over	1							1	1			
TOTAL:												
(All Ages)	3	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1	3	Nil	Nil	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of Cases as shown on Register of
Persons suffering from Tuberculosis
during 1958.

	MALES		FEMALES		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pul.	Pulmonary	Non-Pul.	
No. on Register on 31:12:57	23	-	17	4	44
No. of Cases Notified during Year:	2	-	-	-	2
No. of Cases restored to Register having been renewed previously:	1	-	-	-	1
No. of Cases added to Register other than by formal notification:	1	-	-	-	1
No. of Cases removed from Register during the Year:	4	-	3	1	8
No. of Cases remaining on Register on 31:12:1958.	23	-	14	3	40

There were no deaths notified as due to Tuberculosis during the Year.

FOOD POISONING.

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

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION.

School children were vaccinated in selected groups by the School Medical Service of the Breconshire County Council.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Breconshire County Council</u>	<u>Brynmawr U.D. Council</u>
Population Mid 1958	56,000	6,420
No. of Live Births	796	100
Legitimate	775	99
Illegitimate	21	1
Live Birth Rate per 1000 Population	14.21	15.58
Corrected Birth Rate	14.21	15.58
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births:	2.63	1.00
No. of Still Births	23	3
Legitimate	23	3
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births:	28.08	29.12
Total Live and Still Births	819	103
Infant Deaths - under 1 year of age Total	17	5
Legitimate	16	5
Illegitimate	1	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births		
Total:	21.35	50.0
Legitimate	20.64	50.0
Illegitimate	47.61	Nil
Neo Natal	15.07	40.0
No. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age -		
Total:	12	4
Legitimate	11	4
Illegitimate	1	Nil
Rate per 1,000 Live Births	18.24	40.0
Maternal Deaths (Including Abortion)	Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births:	Nil	Nil
No. of Deaths	690	88
Crude Death Rate	12.3	13.71
Corrected Death Rate	12.3	14.94
No. of Deaths from Cancer	116	13
Cancer Death Rate	2.07	2.02

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

(Continued)

ENGLAND AND WALES:

Birth Rate - Live Births	...	16.4
Birth Rate - Still Births	...	21.6
Death Rate	...	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate	...	22.5
Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Death of Infants under 4 weeks of age)	...	16.2

I wish to again express my appreciate to members of the Council for their co-operation during the year of this Report.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

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

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

of the
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

to the

BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

for the Year 1958.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the
Brynmawr Urban District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on
the work done in the Department for the year ended 31st.,
December, 1958.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D.A. JONES, C.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A., A.I.H.Sg.

Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply:

The District is supplied with water from an impounding reservoir known as Cairns 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 subject to slow sand filtration, three filter beds are provided.

The reputed capacity of the Reservoir is 20,000,000 gallons, but in all probability the capacity is considerably less than this. 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.

Brynmawr is particularly fortunate in being able to supplement their reservoir water supply with pumping from the Ffynnon Gisfaen Springs. The supply from these Springs has shown them to be practically inexhaustable and well able to provide Brynmawr with a plentiful supply of water at all times, even after a long drought. The new 60 h.p. Sigmund Electric Pump and Motor which the Council installed in a Pump House sited over the Springs in July 1956 gives a maximum yield of 12,000 gallons per hour, pumping against a head of 640 feet through a 6 inch main delivery pipe to the Reservoir or to the Balancing Tank as required. The main leaving the Reservoir is 7 inches in diameter.

The Waste Water Inspector has been employed extensively to detect leakages and the Surveyor and his Staff have been energetic in their efforts to increase pressures to the higher points of the town. This was essential in order to provide an adequate supply to the new housing estate being built by the Council at the Old Bryn Farm.

The Chlorination Plant which began operating in July 1956, has given good results since the preliminary "teething" troubles were overcome.

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

Sampling:

Total No. of Samples taken for Biological Examination	...	70
Total No. of Samples taken for Chlorine Content	...	19
Total No. of Samples taken for Chemical Analysis	...	9

TOTAL Samples taken:

98

Sampling: (Continued)

RESULTS OF SAMPLES TAKEN FOR BIOLOGICAL
EXAMINATION.

Samples taken from	No. taken	Satisfactory	Slight Contamination		Heavy Contamination	
			Faecal	Non-Faecal	Faecal	Non-Faecal
Council Mains	65	51	-	4	7	10
Reservoir	2	-	-	-	-	2
Gisfaen Springs	2	-	-	-	2	2
Other Springs	1	-	-	-	1	1
Total:	70	51	-	4	10	15

RESULTS OF SAMPLES TAKEN FOR CHLORINE
CONTENT.

Samples taken from	No. taken	No. showing free Residual Chlorine	No. showing total Residual Chlorine	No. showing Nil Return
Council Mains	19	8	18	1

RESULTS OF SAMPLES TAKEN FOR CHEMICAL
ANALYSIS.

Samples taken from	Number taken	Result
Council Mains	2	Satisfactory
Gisfaen Springs	1	Satisfactory
Upper Railway Spring	1	Satisfactory
Lower Railway Spring	1	Satisfactory
River Clydach	2	Satisfactory
Reservoir	2	Satisfactory
T O T A L:	9	

The purity of the town's water supply has improved considerably due to the installation of the Chlorination Plant, and the considerable care and attention given to it's operation and maintenance. The ten results showing heavy contamination were the results obtained during the first and second weeks of September after exceptionally heavy storms, when the whole reservoir was in a turbulent state. As a result of immediate action this condition only prevailed for a very short period, probably no longer than about 36 hours.

The chemical samples taken at the same time were remarked upon by the Public Analyst as being "peaty moorland water with marked turbidity". They were not toxic and were not unsatisfactory for a domestic supply. This condition of the water only lasted for a few days during the storm period. Sedimentation rapidly improved the condition of the water and the colour and clarity of the domestic supply was normal within a few days thereafter.

The purity of the water from the Gisfaen Springs varies considerably. It is noticeable that after a period of dry weather that the water is remarkably pure, but shortly after a downpour of rain, impurities are washed into the Springs. It is comforting to know that between sand filtration and mechanical chlorination that the water is made a perfectly safe water for drinking.

R A I N F A L L

Comparative Figures in Inches.

MONTHS	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
January	5.29	4.32	14.50	3.60	2.36	1.65
February	7.90	6.25	0.38	2.54	5.52	2.37
March	1.93	4.32	1.12	3.05	5.92	3.63
April	1.25	0.15	1.89	2.25	1.19	5.81
May	4.44	2.35	1.98	8.05	3.66	5.81
June	4.18	0.48	3.64	5.39	8.40	2.62
July	5.03	5.52	5.75	1.28	3.58	6.11
August	4.87	3.96	5.78	1.14	5.01	6.06
September	8.80	5.25	5.86	2.82	6.59	6.17
October	6.35	2.01	1.57	3.10	9.88	4.30
November	2.43	1.59	1.36	7.95	15.68	3.25
December	4.23	5.77	7.15	8.25	4.62	2.83
T O T A L:	56.70	42.97	50.98	49.42	72.41	50.61

The exceptionally heavy rainfall during September which gave rise to the turbidity in the reservoir can be readily appreciated in the aforementioned table. Pumping from the Gisfaen Springs became necessary in April for a few weeks.

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	...	2100
Population	...	6420
Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from public water mains	...	1952
Estimated number of persons supplied	...	6246
Number of Dwelling Houses <u>not</u> supplied from mains	...	27
Estimated number of persons <u>not</u> supplied from mains	...	86

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.

SWIMMING BATHS:

Regular visits were made to the Open Air Swimming Baths during the season with frequent checks on the conditions of the water in the baths. The chlorine content of this water is assessed thrice daily by the Baths Superintendant. The Surveyor's Department is responsible for the maintenance of the Baths and Plant whilst the purity of the water is, of necessity, a Public Health matter, and both Departments co-operate to achieve the best possible results.

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 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 will probably need to be enlarged at some future date.

The Usk River Board complained of the pollution taking place in the River Clydach. One sample of sewage effluent was taken on 22:5:58, and the Public Analyst reported that it was "of fair quality, but contained phenols and detergents which may hinder purification".

As a result of a further complaint from the Usk River Board that fish life and fish food were being poisoned, a comprehensive set of ten samples was taken and submitted for analysis. The two samples of mains water supply were satisfactory. The two samples taken at the reservoir were very turbid, acid (from peat) and contained a high amount of Ferric Hydroxide. This high iron content could have a deleterious effect on fish food, but it was observed that after filtration the amount of iron in colloidal suspension showed a marked decrease.

Samples of Gisfaen, and the two Railway Springs gave a good result. The River Clydach was sampled about 20 yards above and 40 yards below the sewer outfall, giving good results. The final sewer effluent was sampled at point of discharge to the River Clydach and this again gave a remarkably good result.

The high amount of iron may not be as serious as these samples would appear to indicate, as the samples were taken after very heavy rain storms during which a great deal of soil was washed into the reservoir and into the River Clydach. Consequently, all samples were turbid and the iron contained was in colloidal suspension. This I am sure, is not a normal state for these waters.

PUBLIC CLEANSING -

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Council operate a thrice weekly collection of refuse from all parts of the town, and a daily collection from the central sections of the town, and disposal is by means of controlled tipping designed to level sites of disused workings of outcrop coal seams, which are numerous in the area.

The Blaenavon Road tipping was discontinued in late 1955, and in January, 1956, the Council commenced tipping refuse on the site known as "The Patches", and this is the only site now used for this purpose.

One Bedford Tipper is employed full time and one 3 ton Karrier is employed part time on refuse collection.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The work of rats and mice destruction had proceeded satisfactorily and had 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	...	231
Number showing complete 'takes' of bait	...	31
Number showing partial 'takes' of bait	...	112
Number showing 'no take' of bait	...	88

(Zinc Phosphide was the Poison used)

Maintenance Treatment carried out during November:

Number of sewer manholes baited	...	236
Number showing complete 'take' of bait	...	18
Number showing partial 'take' of bait	...	134
Number showing 'no take' of bait	...	84

(Arsenious Oxide Poison was used for the November Treatment. This was the last sewer treatment to be done under the Direct Grant Scheme).

The bait was deposited on the 'benching' of the manhole 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.

In all maintenance treatments the method advocated by Mr. R. Davies, the Divisional Rodent Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is implemented - i.e., where any 'take' occurs on the first 6 oz. prebait laid, the second prebait is doubled in quantity, and if a 'take' is again noted, the poisoned bait is again doubled, so that in a bad area, as much as 24 ozs. of poison bait is laid in each manhole. This method has resulted in a greater kill and has had a far more lasting effect. It is noticeable that complaints of infestation have been minimised and do not unusually occur until about a month before the next maintenance treatment becomes due.

On July 1st. 1958, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's Rodent Control Organisation was integrated with the Regional Pest Control of the Ministry.

Mr. R. Davies, the Divisional Rodent Officer who was in charge of the area retired and his Office was merged with that of the Pest Officer, Mr. E.N. Nicholas, with his Office in Llandrindod Wells. The control of rodent as well as all other pest infestations is thus centralized under one Office.

This merging of control practically coincided with the cessation of the separate grant aid made by the Ministry for Rodent Control, as this latter payment ceased on 31st. March, 1958.

I am extremely grateful for the help and consideration given by Mr. R. Davies to me and to Brynmawr during his years of office. The association was a very happy one. The short acquaintance I have had with Mr. Nicholas, his successor, augurs well for the future.

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Infestation Control Department), the base bait and poison used are alternated for sewer treatment, 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. A fairly heavy infestation responded to treatment.

Refuse Disposal Tip:

Periodical inspections were made at the refuse tip. During the year 18 treatments for the destruction of rats were successfully completed, a total of 198 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 :-

No. of Dwelling Houses in Area	...	2150
No. of Local Authority Premises: 6 remunerable & 9 non-remunerable	...	15
No. of Business Premises (estimate)	...	190

Surface Infestation:
Summary (Continued)

Inspections made :-

Local Authority Premises -	New Inspections	...	10
	Reinspections	...	11
	On Complaint	...	1
	Survey	...	15
Business Premises -	New Inspections	...	4
	Reinspections	...	7
	On Complaint	...	1
	Survey	...	6
Private Dwellings -	New Inspections	...	206
	Reinspections	...	139
	On Complaint	...	93
	Survey	...	168
TOTAL: Inspections including Reinspections:		...	<u>661</u>
No. Rat Infestations (including Reinfestations)		...	210
No. Infestations by Mice		...	69
No. Treatments carried out by Local Authority		...	279
No. of Informal Notices served requiring Rat- Proofing:		...	1
No. of cases where rat-proofing carried out informally:		...	2
No. of block treatments:		...	Nil

The use of Warfarin as an 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 :-

DECEMBER 1958.

TYPE OF TRADE	Number of Factories	Mechanical Power used	Mech. Power not used
Motor Vehicle Repairs, etc:	10	10	-
Motor Bodies, Vehicle Painting, etc:	2	2	-
Joinery	4	4	-
Boot Repairs	2	2	-
Sausages	1	1	-
Tyre Repairs	1	1	-
Aerated Waters	1	1	-
Letter Press Printing	1	1	-
Raincoats	2	2	-
Tufted Chenile	1	1	-
Cakes (Confectionery)	1	1	-
Bread	1	1	-
TOTAL:	27	27	-

PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION

OF THE FACTORIES ACTS - 1937 and 1948.

Inspections for purposes as to Health.

	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced:	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced:	26	30	2	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced (excluding out-workers)	3	7	Nil	Nil
	39	37	2	Nil

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	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Drainage to Floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	-	-	-	-	-
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	2	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L:	5	5	-	2	-

PART 8 OF THE ACT: OUTWORK - SECTIONS

110 and 111

There are no 'outworkers' in the
Urban Area.

RENT ACT 1957.

This Act which repealed the relevant Sections appertaining to
Certificates of Disrepair under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 (1)
and several other Acts and parts of Acts, came into force on the 6th.,
July, 1957.

First Schedule

(Part I - Applications for Certificate of Disrepair)

(1) Number of Applications for Certificates	...	6
(2) Number of decisions not to issue Certificates	...	Nil
(3) Number of decisions to issue Certificates	...	6
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	5
(b) in respect of all defects	...	1
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	2
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	Nil
(6) Number of Certificates issued	...	5

(Part II - Applications for Cancellation of Certificates)

(7) Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of Certificates	...	Nil
(8) Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	...	Nil
(9) Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objection	...	Nil
(10) Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	Nil

HOUSING ACT 1957

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.
(This figure includes inspections for Slum Clearance purposes) approx. 600
- (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose approx. 750
- (c) Number of dwellings, included under sub-heading (a) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1936 20
- (d) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 20
- (e) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so injurious or dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation. (One hundred and thirty-eight houses are to be built to re-house families from slum dwellings. In addition, there are 22 vacant and dilapidated houses to be demolished 94
- (f) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceeding 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 26

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices:

- (a) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers 17

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957: ...
- (i) No. of dwelling houses in which Notices were served requiring repairs ... Nil
- (ii) No. of houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices ...
- By Owners ... Nil
- By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil

HOUSING STATISTICS

(Continued)

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:

(i) No. of dwelling houses in which Formal Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	9
(ii) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:	...	
By Owners	...	9
By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957:

(i) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	20
(ii) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	19
(iii) No. of Undertakings accepted that house will not be used for human habitation	...	2
(iv) No. of houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders made under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1957	...	20
(v) No. of Part Dwellings closed in pursuance of Closing Orders made under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957	...	12

4. Housing Act 1957 - Part IV - Overcrowding:

A. (i) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	No figures available
(ii) No. of families dwelling therein	...	-do-
(iii) No. of persons dwelling therein	...	-do-
B. (i) No. of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	-do-
C. (i) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	11
(ii) No. of persons concerned in such cases	...	42
D. (i) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	Nil
E. (i) 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	...	Nil

HOUSING STATISTICS

(Continued)

Re 4 C. (i) and (ii). In rehousing in slum clearance work the Council, by a system of exchanges, relieved overcrowding within Council houses and flats and in privately owned dwellings. By so doing, the Council were able to relieve overcrowding in a great number of cases, thus utilising their resources to the fullest possible extent; 11 families being re-housed by this method.

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 houses. Within a comparatively short time these young families make application to the Council for accommodation, and it is this factor which the Council have to consider carefully when allocating newly erected houses.

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

The Council has decided to build 138 houses, to be allocated solely for rehousing people displaced from slum dwellings. This figure approximates the figure of 137 given to the Ministry in the Return made in July, 1955, under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. The original scheme was to complete the programme of rehousing within 15 years, later reduced to 10 years at the request of the Ministry. The Council subsequently decided to expedite this work and hope to complete this stage by mid-1958. This is now well in hand.

There are several derelict dwellings that require action under the Housing Acts, and these are being included, making a gross figure of 160 houses to be demolished or closed.

The duties involved in the work of Slum Clearance became of such importance as practically to exclude all but the most pressing of other duties resting on the Department.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING ACTIONS.

No. of Clearance Areas Represented	...	10
No. of Houses in above Areas	...	53
No. of Clearance Areas Confirmed by Minister	...	9
No. of Houses in Confirmed Clearance Areas	...	49
No. of Clearance Areas operative	...	7
No. of Houses in operative Clearance Areas	...	42
No. of Clearance Areas where Ministry Inquiries held	...	4
No. of Houses in Clearance Areas demolished	...	N11
No. of Demolition Orders made by Council	...	19
No. of Houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	...	20
No. of Closing Orders made by Council	...	20
No. of Houses closed as a result of Closing Orders	...	19

SUMMARY OF HOUSING ACTIONS.

(Continued)

No. of Closing Orders made on Part-Buildings	...	6
No. of Part-Buildings closed as a result of Closing Orders	...	12
No. of Undertakings to repair houses accepted by Council to prevent Orders being made on them	...	8
No. of Undertakings accepted by Council to repair, alter, reconstruct and improve houses - Section 27	...	7
No. of Undertakings accepted as above - Section 24	...	Nil
No. of Undertakings completed and Closing Order determined	...	1
No. of Undertakings completed and Demolition Order revoked	...	Nil
No. of Undertakings completed (Section 16)	...	Nil

REHOUSING:

No. of Council Houses built	...	120
No. of Families rehoused from Clearance Areas	...	32
No. of Persons rehoused from Clearance Areas	...	96
No. of Families rehoused from houses with Demolition Orders	...	35
No. of Persons rehoused from houses with Demolition Orders	...	121
No. of Families rehoused from houses with Closing Orders	...	19
No. of Persons rehoused from houses with Closing Orders	...	58
No. of Families rehoused from Part-Buildings with Closing Orders	...	12
No. of Persons rehoused from Part-Buildings with Closing Orders	...	39
No. of Families rehoused by Indirect Rehousing (i.e., by exchanges to privately owned houses)	...	3
No. of Persons rehoused from above houses	...	9
No. of Families rehoused by exchange of Council Houses	...	8
No. of Persons rehoused by Council House exchanges	...	33
No. of Families rehoused by Re-lets in Council Houses	...	7
No. of Persons rehoused by above Re-lets	...	26
No. of Families rehoused from Camps	...	2
No. of Persons rehoused from above Camps	...	8
Total No. of Families rehoused during the year by Council	...	118
Total No. of Persons rehoused during the year by Council	...	390
No. of Families due for rehousing that rehoused themselves	...	7
No. of Persons in above	...	22
No. of Families (one person only) died before being rehoused	...	1

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number and Nature of Inspections made.

Housing:

Complaints received	...	...	61
Complaints investigated	...	...	61
Houses inspected and recorded	...	...	20
Re-visits to properties under Notice	...	...	87
Dirty or otherwise unsatisfactory houses	...	...	10
Disinfestations	...	...	18

General Sanitation:

Drainage inspections	...	...	17
Drain testing	...	...	2
Factories	...	...	37
Refuse Collections - Inspections	...	...	3

Infectious Diseases:

Enquiries	...	...	12
Disinfections	...	...	3

Housing Estates:

The new Council Estate at the Old Bryn Farm where a total of 134 new houses are to be built was well in hand at the commencement of the year. When completed the Estate will consist of 28 two-bedroomed houses, 87 three-bedroomed houses and 19 four-bedroomed houses. It is also the intention of the Council to add a further block of 4 three-bedroomed houses and 2 flats, plus a shop premises, near the entrance to the Estate.

In February the first block of these houses was completed and the first two families were rehoused under the Slum Clearance Programme on the 14th February 1958. By the end of the year a total of 96 families consisting of 315 persons were rehoused on this Estate alone, 94 families from Slum Clearance properties and 2 families from the Aberbaiden Camp.

In order to perpetuate the Welsh flavour and association of the area, Welsh names were given to the three roads of the Estate viz., Heol Helig (Willow Road); Heol Onen (Ash Road); and Heol Derw (Oak Road). The lay-out and siting of this Estate makes it into a delightful residential area giving the occupiers a beautiful view of the hills and the western valley.

The four houses built "into the town" on the corner of Somerset and Worcester Streets for the rehousing of elderly people has formed a beautiful corner site of what was previously a derelict area. The first family was rehoused on the 5th May and the four were occupied by the 1st of September, all families being from Slum Clearance houses.

Housing Estates:

(Continued)

Evidence that this surge forward in the building of new houses is not a temporary phase of the Council is that projects for four other building sites are well in hand.

Council owned houses are as follows :-

		<u>1 BR.</u>	<u>2 BR.</u>	<u>3 BR.</u>	<u>4 BR.</u>
Twyncynghordy Estate:	Houses	-	8	334	-
	Flats	-	28	-	-
Brynawel Estate:	Houses	-	-	32	-
	Flats	-	40	-	-
Pleasant View:	Houses	-	-	20	-
Fitzroy Street:	Houses	-	-	4	-
Greenland Road:	House	-	-	1	-
Hill Crest:	Flats	2	28	-	-
Beaufort Street:	Flats	-	4	-	-
Aneurin Place:	Houses	-	50	-	-
Noddfa, Somerset Street:	Houses	2	2	-	-
Old Bryn Farm Estate:	Houses	-	22	77	15
TOTAL:		4	182	468	15

TOTAL NO. Council owned Dwellings on 31:12:58 - 669

Routine inspections of these houses were carried out during the year, and 53 reports were submitted to the Housing Allocation and Housing and Property Sub-Committees.

Dirty premises were dealt with immediately, and were reported in a few cases. Generally speaking, the houses are kept in a clean condition, but the few unsatisfactory tenants rapidly improve under constant supervision. In the few cases reported, the Committee has taken a strong line of action, and this has had the desired effect.

Repairs are reported to the Surveyor's Department when noted, this work largely being done in collaboration with Mr. Galt of that Department.

All premises becoming vacant are inspected for cleanliness and repair by Mr. Galt and I before being re-let. This has a two fold effect, viz., that the outgoing tenant leaves the house clean and any repairs he is liable for, are charged to him, and secondly, the state of the premises is known so that any complaint by an ingoing tenant can be properly assessed. This applied to exchanges as well as to re-lets for other reasons.

Housing Applications:

The rehousing of families from Slum Clearance dwellings reduced the number of applications on the Register, but additional applications tended to offset this reduction. There were 278 applicants on the Register on 31st. December, 1957, and at the end of 1958 there were 234 listed.

As already explained under 'Housing Statistics', the maximum use was made of every house that became available for letting. This duty falls on the Housing Allocation Committee and they took great pains to be thorough in their investigations and deliberations, and impartial in this most difficult and onerous task of allocating houses to the most needy cases.

Some needy cases, particularly overcrowded cases, still remain on the Register, as well as a few instances of people suffering special hardship. This was inevitable as primary consideration was given to the Slum Clearance problem, and Ministry grants applied only to the latter category. The position is, however, easier and the bulk of the applications tend to stress the overcrowding of sub-tenants and not the insanitary condition of the dwellings as had been the case hitherto.

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F O O D.

Food Premises:

During the year, 147 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 (estimate) :-

<u>Type of Food Premises</u>	<u>Number in Area</u>
Grocers	24
Greengrocers and Wet Fish Shops	9
General Stores	18
Market - covered and open	1
Bakeries	3
Mineral Water Manufacturer	1
Restaurants (including Snack Bars)	8
Butchers' Shops	13
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)	9
Fried Fish Shops	3
Manufacture of Ice Cream	1
Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	29

A total of 82 inspections were made at such premises, the Public Health Inspector stressing the need for a high standard of personal hygiene of food handlers.

Byelaws under Section 15 of the
Food and Drugs Act, 1938:

Byelaws 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.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947 to 1952:

There are 29 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 the Food and Drugs Acts.

Milk Supply:

There are 9 persons licensed 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 is 'pasteurised' and supplied mainly by large Dairy Companies having Pasteurisation Plants in the neighbouring towns. There is one such Dairy within the urban area.

F O O D.

(Continued)

Inspections at Dairies:

During the year, 32 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:

25 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 Milk ... 23

Number of samples not conforming
to the standards ... 2

The 2 unsatisfactory samples were reported to the Foods and Drugs Inspector in Brecon.

Licenced Hotels and Inns:

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

Market:

Regular stallholders handling food are :-

Fresh Meat	...	6 stalls
Cooked Meat	...	6 stalls
Cakes and Confectionery	...	3 stalls
Shell Fish	...	1 stall
Sweets	...	1 stall
Tinned Goods	...	2 stalls
Poultry	...	6 stalls
Greengrocers	...	40 stalls

Market: (Continued)

In addition, 5 stalls sell fresh meat occasionally, about 20 sell eggs regularly, and the number of poultry dealers at certain periods amounts to about 25.

Each Fresh Meat, Cooked Meat, Cakes and Confectionery and Poultry Stall has been provided with screens or other means of securing the prevention of contamination of exposed foods.

Various minor offences observed were dealt with by verbal warnings.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

This Act, which came into operation on the 1st. January, 1956, is an Act consolidating several Acts on this subject.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955:

Some time was spent in implementing these Regulations, but as I have remarked elsewhere, the main problem during this year was Slum Clearance, and far too little time could be spared for this important work.

The vast majority of food premises are fundamentally sound, and proprietors are making a considerable effort themselves to conform with the standards laid down. The Regulations themselves are not very clear on some points, but no doubt these will respond to the interpretation of " case law " as prosecutions arise.

Inspection of Foodstuffs:

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

Apricots 12 tins;

Beans 16 tins;

Beef Loaf 3 tins ($2\frac{3}{4}$ lbs);

Beef Steak and Gravy 11 tins (11 lbs);

Carrots 2 tins;

Cheese 2 lbs;

Chicken Fillets 1 tin;

Corned Beef 36 tins ($77\frac{1}{2}$ lbs);

Crabmeat 1 tin;

Fruit (Preserved) 20 jars (40 lbs);

Haddock (Smoked) 28 lbs;

Ham 11 tins (128 lbs. 7 ozs.);

Ham (Chopped) 1 tin (4 lbs);

Inspection of Foodstuffs:
(Continued)

Jam 122 x 1 lb pots.
Luncheon Meat 2 tins (1½ lbs);
Milk (Condensed) 14 tins;
Milk (Evaporated) 7 tins;
Oranges 6 tins;
Peaches 17 tins;
Pears 14 tins;
Peas 20 tins;
Pineapples 17 tins;
Plums 3 tins;
Pork Luncheon Meat 6 tins (7 lbs. 12 ozs.)
Rice (Creamed) 2 tins;
Salmon 9 tins;
Sausages (Beef) 5 lbs;
Sausages (Pork) 10 lbs;
Soup 1 tin;
Steak and Gravy 3 tins (3 lbs);
Stewed Steak 8 tins (8 lbs);
Strawberries 5 tins;
Tongue 12 tins (17 lbs. 4 ozs.);
Tomatoes 72 tins;
Veal (Jellied) 5 tins (30 lbs);

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

All such unsound foods are, under strict control, conveyed to the refuse tip and buried well below the surface in such a manner as to prevent any access to them by any person or animals.

Food and Drugs:

The Breconshire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Brynmawr Area, and I am indebted to Mr. G.E. Bastin, the Chief Food and Drugs Inspector for the following information :-

No. of Milk Samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act	...	...	...	69
No. of Samples of other Food and Drugs	...	...	...	13

In addition to the above samples :-

Biological Samples of Milk supplied to schools including samples taken at Pasteurisation Plants	37
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All the above samples complied with the statutory standards.

HEATHCOTE SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

In July, 1954, Government Control of the Slaughterhouse under the Ministry of Food ceased, and the complete control of the premises taken over by Messrs. Weeks (Brynmawr) Ltd., as a Wholesale Meat Supply Company. This continued until the 13th November, 1955, when the Fatstock Marketing Corporation took over part of the business as follows - The Fatstock Marketing Corporation became responsible for supplying live-stock "on the hook", and Messrs. Weeks (Brynmawr) Ltd., purchasing the dead meat "off the hook" from the Fatstock Marketing Corporation, Messrs. Weeks (Brynmawr) Ltd., being in charge of all sales to retail butchers. Lairage and slaughtering are controlled and managed by Messrs. Weeks (Brynmawr) Ltd., as Contractors to the Fatstock Marketing Corporation.

The Heathcote Slaughterhouse has a very high "through-put", supplying about 130 shops, mainly in the urban districts of Abertillery, Blaenavon, Brynmawr, Ebbw Vale and Nantyglo and Blaina, and the rural district of Crickhowell. In addition, it caters to some retail butchers in the urban districts of Abercarn, Cwmbran, Gelligaer, Pontypool, Rhymney, Risca and Tredegar, the County Borough of Merthyr Tydfil and the Abergavenny Rural District.

Occasionally, some meat is sent to Court Herbert Slaughterhouse near Neath and to Newport.

The cost of Meat Inspection is borne by the six Local Authorities forming a Joint Committee, these being :-

Abertillery U.D.C.,
Blaenavon U.D.C.,
Brynmawr U.D.C.,
Crickhowell R.D.C.,
Ebbw Vale U.D.C.,
Nantyglo & Blaina U.D.C.,

The Meat Inspector, Mr. J. Russell Parry, took up his duties on the 20th February, 1956, his appointment being a full-time one.

It may be mentioned here that some shops in the area are partly supplied from places outside, such as Abergavenny Farmers, Maesycymmer Slaughterhouse, and Newport Cold Stores. Some imported meat passes through the Heathcote Slaughterhouse for delivery to retail butchers.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED
HEATHCOTE SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

KILLING FIGURES FOR 1958.

T Y P E	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Steers and Heifers	425	346	367	335	354	388	292	314	337	344	350	328
Cows & Bulls	32	29	24	8	10	12	7	9	14	22	26	13
Calves	93	101	138	137	44	23	59	45	81	117	70	62
Sheep and Lambs	1584	1046	693	1128	2018	2555	2850	2558	2951	2627	2483	2380
Rams & Ewes	16	3	1	21	5	8	28	14	52	125	89	34
Pigs	800	765	896	734	614	563	488	501	787	869	929	986
Sows and Boars	1	4	4	2	1	5	4	-	1	5	6	3

TOTALS:-

Steers and Heifers	4180	Cows and Bulls	206
Calves	970	Sheep and Lambs	24873
Rams and Ewes	396	Pigs	8932
Sows and Boars	36		

HEATHCOTE SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

CONDENMED MEAT AND OFFAL FOR 1958.

(Weight given in Pounds)

MONTH	Cattle Killed	Beef	Beef Offal	Calves Killed	Veal	Calves Offal	Sheep Killed	Mutton Offal	Sheep Offal	Pigs Killed	Pork	Pigs Offal
JAN.	457	165	2091	93	-	-	1600	167	128	801	204	60
FEB.	375	215	1332	101	19	12	1049	216	101	769	331	77
MARCH	391	227	1672	138	-	-	694	6	59	900	302	63
APRIL	343	507	1341	137	-	-	1149	49	60	736	143	101
MAY	364	267	1304	44	-	-	2023	69	261	615	248	107
JUNE	400	279	1524	23	-	-	2563	128	60	568	166	49
JULY	299	162	1650	59	-	4	2878	363	172	492	173	56
AUG.	323	1040	1699	45	-	4	2572	166	124	501	239	119
SEPT.	351	269	1471	81	-	-	3003	9	316	788	318	170
OCT.	366	221	2278	117	39	13	2752	207	512	874	446	242
NOV.	376	1716	3013	70	-	-	2572	120	399	935	441	139
DEC.	341	660	2749	62	3	6	2414	366	394	989	668	139
TOTALS:	4386	5728	22128	970	61	39	25269	1766	2586	8968	3678	1322

HEATHCOTE SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Steers & Heifers	Cows & Bulls	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Ewes & Rams	Pigs	Sows & Boars
No. Killed	4180	206	970	24,873	396	8932	36
No. Inspected	4180	206	970	24,873	396	8932	36
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cystercercosis:- Whole Carcasses Cdm'd.	1	3	2	26	29	3	1
Carc. in which some part or organ was Condemned	1330	138	4	789	260	534	2
Percentage of Numb- er Inspected affec- ted with disease other than Tuber- culosis & Cyster- cercosis.	31.82	67.00	0.41	3.17	65.65	5.97	5.55
Tuberculosis only: Whole Carcs. Cmd.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carc. of which some part or organ was Condemned.	67	15	-	-	-	302	1
Percentage of Numb- er Inspected affec- ted with Tuber- culosis.	16.03	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cystercercosis: Carc. of which some part or organ was Condemned.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carc. submitted to treatment by Refrigeration	5	-	-	-	-	-	-

N.B: No horses were slaughtered.

CARCASE MEAT AND OFFAL

SUMMARY OF TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED.

Carcase Meat Condemned:

Beef	...	5,728 lbs.
Veal	...	61 lbs.
Mutton and Lamb	...	1,766 lbs.
Pork	...	3,678 lbs.
<u>TOTAL:</u> Carcase Meat Condemned	...	11,233 lbs. =====

Offal Condemned:

Beef	...	22,128 lbs.
Calves	...	39 lbs.
Sheep	...	2,586 lbs.
Pigs	...	1,322 lbs.
<u>TOTAL:</u> Carcase Meat Condemned	...	26,075 lbs. =====

TOTAL: Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned:-

16 tons; 13 cwt; 12 lbs;
=====

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT & OFFAL

Meat and Offal found to be unfit for human consumption is stained green and collected by Messrs. Smithfield Animal Products Ltd., Hafod Isha Works, Swansea.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

Twelve Licences and one Provisional Licence to slaughter animals were granted or renewed by the Council in December, 1958. Most of these men are employed at the Heathcote Slaughterhouse in various capacities.

C O N C L U S I O N .

The Public Health Department gratefully acknowledge and appreciate 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 during the year of this Report.

Yours obediently,

D.A. JONES,

Public Health Inspector.

	<u>Pages.</u>
Ambulance Services	9;
Births and Birth Rate	3;5;6;
Chairman and Council	1;
Clinic	9;
Deaths and Death Rate	3;6;
Deaths - Age Distribution	8;
Deaths - Cancer	7;
Deaths - Causes of	7;8;
Deaths - Maternal	6;
Deaths - Neo-Natal	7;
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	20;
Factories Act	24;25;26;
Food - Hygiene Regulations	36;
Food - Inspection	36;37;
Food - Poisoning	12;
Food - Premises	33;34;
Food - Registration	34;
Food - Samples	37;
Food and Drugs	24;36;37;
Hospitals	9;
Housing - Allocation	35;
Housing - Application	33;
Housing - Estates	31;32
Housing - General	3;4;5;
Housing - Statistics	27;28;29;
Housing Actions - Summary of	29;30;
Ice Cream	34;
Infantile Mortality	6;
Infectious Diseases - Notification	10;
Infectious Diseases - Classification	11;
Introduction	2;
Laboratory Service	9;
Licenced Premises	35;

I N D E X

	<u>Pages.</u>
Market	35;36;
Meat - Animals Slaughtered	39;
Meat - Condemned	40;
Meat - Condemned Summary	41;42;
Meat - Inspection	38;
Milk - Supply	34;35;
Milk - Samples	3;5;
Officers - Public Health Department	1;
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	12;
Population	2;3;
Public Analyst	9;
Public Cleansing	20;
Public Health Inspector's Report	15;
Rainfall	18;19;
Rent Act 1957	26;
Rodent Control	21;22;23;
Sanitary Circumstances of Area	16;
Sanitary Inspection of Area	31;
Slaughterhouse	38;
Slaughterhouse Statistics	39;40;41;42;
Slaughtermen	42;
Social Conditions of Area	3;4;5;
Statistics - General for Area	2;3;
Statistics - Vital for Area	2;3;5;6;7;
Statistics - Vital Summary of	13;14;
Swimming Baths	19;
Tuberculosis	12;
Water - Samples	16;17;18;
Water - Supply	16;
Water Services in Urban Districts	19;
Welfare	9;

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