

[Report 1959] / Medical Officer of Health, Brynmawr U.D.C.

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, 1959

**THE BRYNMAWR
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The ANNUAL REPORTS

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Medical Officer of Health

and

Public Health Inspector

Year ended 31st December, 1929

MEMBER LIST - 1947

1947

Chairman of the Board

Donald W. G. Brown, Jr.
(November to May)

Vice-Chairman

Donald W. G. Brown, Jr.
(May to November)

Chairman of the Public Health
and Housing Committee

Councillor Mrs. E. J. Ryan

Councillor W. G. Tucker

MEMBER LIST - 1948

President

Donald W. G. Brown, Jr.

Councillor D. W. Ryan
Councillor Mrs. E. J. Ryan
Councillor W. G. Tucker

Councillor W. G. Tucker
Councillor D. W. Ryan
Councillor Mrs. E. J. Ryan

Public Health

Councillor Donald W. G. Brown, Jr.
Councillor W. G. Tucker
Councillor D. W. Ryan

Public Health

Public Health

Councillor D. W. Ryan
Councillor W. G. Tucker
Councillor D. W. Ryan
Councillor W. G. Tucker

Councillor Mrs. E. J. Ryan
Councillor W. G. Tucker
Councillor D. W. Ryan
Councillor W. G. Tucker

Public Health Committee
for the District Council
Housing Committee


W. G. Tucker, M.P.
Councillor D. W. Ryan

Public Health Committee
for the District Council
Housing Committee

W. G. Tucker, M.P.
Councillor D. W. Ryan

Public Health

W. G. Tucker, M.P.
Councillor D. W. Ryan



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BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1 9 5 9

Chairman of the Council	-	Councillor W. G. Tucker, J.P. (December to May)
	-	Councillor Gurnos Jones, J.P. (May to December)
Vice-Chairman	-	Councillor Mrs. M. Pryce
Chairman of the Public Health and Housing Committee	-	Councillor W. G. Tucker

----- oOo -----

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

North-Eastern Ward

South-Eastern Ward

Councillor G. H. Jayne	Councillor W. H. Sutherland
Councillor Max Holley	Councillor J. R. Morgan
Councillor J. R. Enoch	Councillor W. Bond Williams

Central Ward

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

Western Ward

Southern Ward

Councillor J. H. Lewis	Councillor Mrs. M. Pryce
Councillor W. G. Tucker	Councillor S. Harding
Councillor R. Powell	Councillor J. Roger Morgan
Councillor F. J. Sims	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.

ANNUAL REPORT

prepared by the Public Health Inspector
on behalf of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the

BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

for the Year 1959.

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 1959.

The Registrar General's population figure for the urban area is 6,420.

In May, Mrs. Rosalie Thomas, Cashier, left the Council's employment and her successor Mrs. M. Ware commenced duties in April. Mrs. M. L. Thomas, Clerk in Finance Department, and Mr. C. L. Porter, Rent Collector, were also appointed in April. Mr. L. B. Woodhall, Clerk in Finance Department, was appointed in September.

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 became necessary to take action against one elderly lady under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948 a Court Order being secured. As she refused to obey the Order, proceedings for eviction were instituted by the Council in County Court, and she was eventually evicted and conveyed to Part III accommodation at Cockcroft House, Hay.

It is my desire to express my sincere thanks to the members of the Council for their co-operation in all matters concerned with the health of the District.

Yours faithfully,

D. A. JONES,

Public Health Inspector,

on behalf of

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

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

Doctor Tate was taken seriously ill in February, 1959 and although he attempted to resume his duties in July he suffered a relapse in August. He eventually resigned his appointment terminating on December 31st, 1959.

Year	Population	Number of Houses	Birth Rate	Death Rate
1959	6450	2100	15.28	15.71
1958	6380	2025	15.43	15.75
1957	6350	2015	15.43	15.75
1956	6350	2025	15.43	15.75
1955	6380	2025	15.43	15.75
1954	6400	2025	15.43	15.75
1953	6380	2025	15.43	15.75
1952	6380	2025	15.43	15.75
1951	6434	1986	16.0	16.8
1950	6625	1873	14.6	15.6
1949	6569	1843	14.7	15.7
1948	6540	1875	15.1	15.9
1947	6541	1877	15.7	15.9
1946	6368	1770	15.8	15.6
1945	6231	1770	15.8	15.6
1944	6281	1770	15.9	15.7
1943	6229	1770	15.9	15.8
1942	6229	1770	15.9	15.8
1941	6418	1680	15.15	11.6
1940	6625	1600	16.01	15.25
1939	6695	-	15.5	15.34
1938	6976	-	15.82	11.9
1937	6976	-	14.01	13.04
1936	7110	1745	14.77	12.94
1935	7210	1745	15.84	10.8
1934	7285	1650	15.74	13.5
1933	7358	1650	15.74	15.7

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 in operation in 1958.

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 1959 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 1959 is 3.12 persons per house. The standard of amenities to the houses has also improved. A house with a bath, an indoor or adjacent water closet and other facilities is 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.

Housing Position 31st December, 1959.

No. of Private Dwellings	1352
No. of Public Houses (+ Dwellings)	24
No. of Council Houses, Flats etc.	689
No. of other Council owned Houses.	2

Total Dwellings in Area. 2067

Total No. of Houses vacant as a result of action under the Housing Act 1957. 83

No. of Houses built during 1959 by the Brynmawr Council. 20
By Private Individuals. 2

Total. 22

No. of Houses Demolished	...	41
No. of Houses Closed	...	8
No. of Part-Premises Closed	...	3
		52
Less Demolition & Closing Orders Determined.	...	10
<u>T O T A L:</u>	Number of Houses Demolished or Closed	42
<u>T O T A L:</u>	Number of Dwellings in area on 31.12.59.	2067
	Number of Council owned Dwellings (included in the above Total).	689
Rateable Value of District	...	£45,963.
Product of a Penny Rate for the Financial Year Ended 31st March, 1959.	...	£165. Os. Od.
Rates in the £:		
General Rate ... £1. 7s. Od.		
Water Rate 2/- in the £		
with a minimum of 15/-		
$\frac{3}{4}$ net. Annual Value 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

B I R T H S:	B R Y N M A W R U.D.C.			BRECONSHIRE C. COUNCIL
	Male	Female	Total	
No. of legitimate Live Births	46	53	99	821
No. of Illegitimate Live Births	3	3	6	34
Total Live Birth			105	855
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 1959		.	16.35	15.3
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 1958		.	15.58	14.2
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	1	2	3	28
No. of Still Births Illegitimate	-	-	Nil	-
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births:			2.9	3.97
Total Live and Still Births			108	893
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births:			27.78	31.71
<u>D E A T H S:</u>				
Deaths taking place with ⁱⁿ District	35	25	60	
Deaths taking place outside of District and transferred in:	25	16	41	
Less Deaths transferred out	3	1	4	
Nett Total Deaths for District	57	40	97	694
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population			15.11	12.43
Registrar General's Comparability Factor			1.10	
Corrected Death Rate			16.62	12.43
<u>M A T E R N A L M O R T A L I T Y:</u>				
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	Nil
<u>I N F A N T M O R T A L I T Y:</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age :-				
Legitimate	1	2	3	14
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births -				
Total			28.57	16.73
Legitimate			30.30	17.05
Illegitimate			Nil	Nil

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	1	2	3	
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Total	1	2	3	12
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births:			28.57	14.03
<u>EARLY NEO NATAL MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age:-				
Legitimate	Nil	2	2	
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Total	Nil	2	2	
Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births :-			19.05	
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>				
Deaths of infants under 1 week of age plus No. of Still Births				
No. of Deaths under 1 week of age	Nil	2	2	
No. of Still Births	1	2	3	
Perinatal Mortality Rate:-			46.29	
<u>CANCER DEATHS:</u>				
No. Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms and Lymphatic Neoplasms :	7	4	11	93
Cancer Death Rate			1.71	1.66

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1. Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil
2. Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil
3. Syphilitic Disease	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
6. Meningococcal Infections	Nil	Nil
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
8. Measles	Nil	Nil
9. Other infective and parasitic disease	Nil	Nil
10. Malignant Neoplasm of stomach	2	Nil
11. Malignant Neoplasm - lung bronchus	3	Nil
12. Malignant Neoplasm - breast	Nil	1
13. Malignant Neoplasm - uterus	Nil	Nil
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	2	3
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	Nil	Nil
16. Diabetes	1	1
17. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	4	9
18. Coronary disease, angina	14	9
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	Nil	1
20. Other Heart Diseases	9	7
21. Other circulatory disease	3	1
22. Influenza	Nil	2
23. Pneumonia	4	Nil
24. Bronchitis	6	Nil
25. Other Diseases of respiratory system	1	Nil
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	Nil	Nil
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	Nil
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	Nil	Nil
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	Nil	Nil
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	Nil	Nil
31. Congenital Malformations	Nil	Nil
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents	Nil	Nil
34. All other accidents	2	Nil
35. Suicide	Nil	Nil
36. Homicide and Operations of War	Nil	Nil
ALL CAUSES =	<u>57</u>	<u>40</u>

PUBLIC ANALYST:

Dr. G. V. James, M.D.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. One case was dealt with
under Section 47 of the Act during
this year.
(Brynmawr 268).

ISOLATION HOSPITALS:

Infectious diseases requiring
hospitalisation are admitted to
Gelligaer Isolation Hospital or to
Alt-yr-yn Isolation Hospital, Newport
Mon.

PREVALENCE OF 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 notified during the year:

Disease	BRYNMAWR U.D.C.		
	Total No. Notified.	Males	Females
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	1
Non-Pul. Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	12	5	7
Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Measles	15	4	11
Pneumonia	8	3	5
Meningococcal Infection	1	Nil	1
Polionyelitis	1	1	Nil
Encephalitis	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil	Nil	Nil
Small Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Paratyphoid Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Enteric Fever	Nil	Nil	Nil
Food Poisoning	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	2	1	1
Chicken Pox	1	1	Nil
Malaria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Notifiable Diseases except Tuberculosis:	Nil	Nil	Nil

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

NOTIFIED DURING 1959

Age and Sex Classification.

Ages.	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles		Meningoco- cal Infection	
					Paralytic		Non. Para.					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year										2		
1 year										3		
2 years					1					1		
3 years		1								1		1
4 years	2									2		
5 - 9 years	2	5							2	2		
10 - 14 years	1	1								1		
15 - 24 years												
TOTAL: (All Ages)	5	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	11	-	1

Ages	Acute Pneumonia		Acute Encêph- alitis.		Erysipelas.		Tuberculosis.			
							Respity		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	1									
5-14 years		1						1		
15 -44 years										
45-64 years		2				1				
65 & Over.	2	2								
TOTAL: (All Ages)	3	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	-	-	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of Cases as shown on Register of
Persons suffering from Tuberculosis
during 1959.

	MALES		FEMALES		Total.
	Pulmonary	Non-Pul.	Pulmonary	Non-Pul.	
No. on Register on 31:12:58	23	-	14	3	40
No. of Cases Notified during Year:	-	-	1	-	1
No. of Cases restored to Register having been renewed previously:	-	-	-	-	-
No. of Cases added to Register other than by formal notification:	1	-	1	-	2
No. of Cases removed from Register during the Year:	3	-	1	-	4
No. of Cases remaining on Register on 31:12:59	21	-	15	3	39

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

FOOD POISONING.

There were two cases of food poisoning notified 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 1959	55,800	6,420
No. of Live Births	855	105
Legitimate	821	99
Illegitimate	34	6
Live Birth Rate per 1000 Population	15.32	16.35
Corrected Birth Rate	15.32	16.35
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births:	3.97	2.90
No. of Still Births	28	3
Legitimate	-	3
Illegitimate	-	Nil
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births:	31.71	27.78
Total Live and Still Births	883	108
Infant Deaths - under 1 year of age; Total-	14	3
Legitimate	-	3
Illegitimate	-	Nil
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births Total:	16.37	28.57
Legitimate	17.05	30.30
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil
Neo Natal - No. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age - Total:	12	3
Legitimate	-	3
Illegitimate	-	Nil
Neo Natal Death - Rate per 1,000 Live Births	14.03	28.57
Early Neo Natal Mortality - Death of Infants under 1 week per 1,000 Live Births - Total	-	2
Legitimate	-	2
Illegitimate	-	Nil
Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate	-	19.05
Perinatal Mortality - Death of Infants under 1 week of age plus number of Still Births- Total:	-	5

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.
(Continued)

	<u>Breconshire</u> <u>County Council</u>	<u>Brynnawr</u> <u>U.D. Council</u>
Deaths under 1 week of age		2
Still Births		3
Perinatal Mortality Rate		46.29
Maternal Deaths (Including Abortion)	Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births:	Nil	Nil
No. of Deaths	694	97
Crude Death Rate	12.43	15.11
Corrected Death Rate	12.43	16.62
No. of Deaths from Cancer	93	11
Cancer Death Rate	1.66	1.71

ENGLAND AND WALES:

Birth Rate - Live Births	...	16.5
Birth Rate - Still Births	...	20.7
Death Rate	...	11.6
Infant Mortality Rate	...	22.0
Neo Natal Mortality Rate (Death of Infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 Live Birth)	...	15.8

I wish again to 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,

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

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

D. A. JONES,
Public Health Inspector.

ANNUAL

REPORT

of the
U.D. Council
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

to the
BRYNMAWR URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

for the Year 1959.

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. 1959.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

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

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, 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 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.

On 1st April, 1959, the whole water undertaking was taken over by the South East Breconshire Water Supply Board formed by four Local Authorities viz. Brecon Borough, the Urban District of Brynmawr and the Rural District of Brecknock and Crickhowell. Each Local Authority being represented on the Board. Mr. R. E. Round, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., A.M.I.W.E., being appointed Clerk and Engineer to the Board.

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

Samples:

Total No. of Samples taken for Biological Examination ...

62

Total No. of Samples taken for Chlorine Content ...

13

Total samples taken:

75

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	61	46	13	8	3	-
Gisfaen Springs	1	1	-	-	-	-
Total:	62	47	13	8	3	-

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	13	1	3	11

The South East Breconshire Water Board have taken a large number of samples periodically throughout the year. The water supply to the town is good and due to chlorination and filtration perfectly safe.

R A I N F A L L

Comparative Figures in Inches.

Months	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
January	7.33	5.29	4.32	14.50	3.60	2.36	1.65
February	0.43	7.90	6.25	0.38	2.54	5.52	2.37
March	5.94	1.93	4.32	1.12	3.05	5.92	3.63
April	5.77	1.25	0.15	1.89	2.25	1.19	5.81
May	3.26	4.44	2.35	1.98	8.05	3.66	5.81
June	2.28	4.18	0.48	3.64	5.39	8.40	2.62
July	4.33	5.03	5.52	5.75	1.28	3.58	6.11
August	1.75	4.87	3.96	5.78	1.14	5.01	6.06
September	0.24	8.80	5.25	5.86	2.82	6.59	6.17
October	6.03	6.35	2.01	1.57	3.10	9.88	4.30
November	8.59	2.43	1.59	1.36	7.95	15.68	3.25
December	13.03	4.23	5.77	7.15	8.25	4.62	2.83
T O T A L :	58.98	56.70	41.97	50.98	49.42	72.41	50.61

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.

PARTICULARS REGARDING WATER SERVICES IN THE URBAN DISTRICT.

Total number of Dwelling Houses in the area	...	2067
Population	...	6420
Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from public water mains	...	2041
Estimated number of persons supplied	...	6337
Number of Dwelling Houses <u>not</u> supplied from mains	...	26
Estimated number of persons <u>not</u> supplied from mains	...	83

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 are 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 Surveyors 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 further date.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (Continued)

A great deal of discussion took place during the year between the officers of the Usk River Board and those of the Council regarding the alleged pollution of the River Clydach by the effluent from the sewage works. Finally a joint meeting was held in the Council Chamber on the 14th of November, 1959, and this problem was discussed at great length. Subsequently, Mr. Galt, the Deputy Surveyor, and myself visited the laboratory of the Usk River Board at Caerleon, and Mr. W. J. Thomas, the Pollution Prevention Officer, proved most helpful in his suggestions. Later, as a result of consultations held mainly unofficially in Brynmawr, the worst aspects of these complaints were alleviated.

Messrs. William E. Farrer Ltd., Birmingham, and Messrs. Adams - Hydraulics Ltd., York, were consulted regarding improvements necessary to the sewage works.

A total of six chemical samples were taken for analysis by the Public Analyst and a further three similar samples were procured for Messrs. William E. Farrer Ltd.

SAMPLES TAKEN RE SEWAGE PURIFICATION.

Date Taken	Place Taken	Remarks
27. 5. 1959	Head of Cascade	Good nitrification, good suspended solids, but B.O.D. high.
27. 5. 1959	Sewer Outfall to River	Good nitrification, good suspended solids, but B.O.D. high.
7. 10. 1959	River Clydach 85 feet above sewer outfall	Total solids rather high.
7. 10. 1959	Sewer outfall to River	Good effluent but showing high phenols. B.O.D. high.
7. 10. 1959	42 feet below sewer outfall in River Clydach	Shows polluting effect of sewage. Phenol present.
7. 10. 1959	78 feet below sewer outfall in River Clydach	Rapid fall of iron content and sudden increase in manganese content, and this will remove fish food.
16. 10. 1959	Effluent from Dosing Tank (Prior to Treatment).	Grey Turbidity, suspended matter high, B.O.D. high.
16. 10. 1959	Filter Effluent	Bright, some suspended matter. B.O.D. fairly good
16. 10. 1959	Final Effluent	Bright, suspended matter good. B.O.D. fairly good.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(Continued)

The first six samples which were analysed by Dr. G. V. Janes, Public Analyst, Newport, were taken during the extremely dry period of the year, and consequently the dilution of the impurities in the River Clydach and the sewage works effluent was much below normal.

The last three samples were taken to ascertain the efficiency of the sewage works, and the improvement shown in this result taken from the Dosing Chamber to final effluent is marked. It should, however, be noted that these samples were taken during a period of heavy rainfall. These three samples were taken for Messrs. William E. Ferrer Ltd.

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 April:

Total number of Manholes in sewerage system	...	236
Number of sewer manholes baited	...	180
Number showing complete 'takes' of bait	...	4
Number showing partial 'takes' of bait	...	90
Number showing 'no take' of bait	...	86

(Zinc Phosphide was the Poison used)

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

(Continued)

Maintenance Treatment carried out during November

Number of sewer manholes baited	...	225
Number showing complete 'take' of bait	...	10
Number showing partial 'take' of bait	...	102
Number showing 'no take' of bait	...	113

(Zinc Phosphide was used for the
November Treatment)

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 employed is that, 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.

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 11 treatments for the destruction of rats were successfully completed, a total of 122 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	...	2067
No. of Local Authority Premises: 6 remunerable & 9 non-remunerable	...	15
No. of Business Premises (estimate)	...	190

Inspections made :-

Local Authority Premises -	New Inspections	...	14
	Reinspections	...	17
	On Complaint	...	13
	Survey	...	4
Business Premises -	New Inspections	...	5
	Reinspections	...	8
	On Complaint	...	6
	Survey	...	1
Private Dwellings -	New Inspections	...	227
	Reinspections	...	150
	On Complaint	...	190
	Survey	...	131
TOTAL: Inspections including Reinspections:		...	421
			<hr/>
No. Rat Infestations (including Reinsfestations)		...	167
No. Infestations by Mice		...	81
No. Treatments carried out by Local Authority		...	248
No. of Informal Notices served requiring Rat-			
	Proofing:	...	1
No. of cases where rat-proofing carried out			
	informally:	...	1
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 1959.

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	-
T O T A L:	27	27	-

PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION

OF THE FACTORIES ACT - 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	36	4	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced ... (excluding out-workers)	3	6	Nil	Nil
	29	42	4	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	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Drainage to Floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	-	-	-	2	-
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	12	12	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L:	15	15	-	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 1957 and
several other Acts and parts of Acts, came into force on the 6th., July,
1957.

First Shedule.

(Part I - Applications for Certificate of Disrepair)

(1)	Number of Applications for Certificates	...	2
(2)	Number of decisions not to issue Certificates	...	Nil
(3)	Number of Decisions to issue Certificates	...	2
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	2
	(b) in respect of all defects	...	Nil
(4)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	...	Nil
(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	...	3
(8)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	...	Nil
(9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections	...	Nil
(10)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	...	1

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. | 250 |
| (b) | Number of Inspections made for the purpose | approx. 350 |
| (c) | Number of dwellings, included under sub-heading (a) above, which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1936 | 30 |
| (d) | Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... | 30 |
| (e) | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so injurious or dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation. | 22 |
| (f) | 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 | 39 |

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 | 30 |
|-----|--|----|

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

- | | | |
|------|--|-----|
| (a) | Proceeding 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 | ... | 25 |
| (ii) | No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | 1 |
| (iii) | No. of Undertakings accepted that house will not be used for human habitation | ... | Nil |
| (iv) | No. of house closed in pursuance of Closing Orders made under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1957 | ... | 8 |
| (v) | No. of Part Dwellings closed in pursuance of Closing Orders made under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957 | ... | 3 |

4. Housing Act 1957 - Part IV - Overcrowding:

- | | | | | |
|----|-------|--|-----|----------------------|
| A. | (i) | No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | ... | No figure 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 | ... | 8 |
| | (ii) | No. of persons concerned in such cases | ... | 30 |
| 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 exchange, 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; 8 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 new Council Estate at the Old Bryn Farm was practically completed during the year, 134 homes being occupied. In addition 4 further houses, a shop and flat are now nearing completion fronting the main approach to the Estate. The Reema houses totalling 134 houses, consist of 28 two bedroom houses, 87 three bedroom houses and 19 four bedroom houses. The new approach block now nearing completion consists of 2 three bedroomed houses, 2 four bedroomed houses, and a shop having a three bedroomed flat above it.

The duties involved in the work of Slum Clearance and Rehousing 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 Orders now operative	10
No. of houses in operative Clearance Orders	53
No. of Clearance Orders confirmed by Ministry during Year	1
No. of houses in Clearance Orders confirmed during Year	4
No. of Ministry Inquiries held during Year	1
No. of houses in Clearance Areas demolished	16
No. of Demolition Orders made by Council	1
No. of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	23
No. of houses demolished other than as a result of Demolition Orders	2
No. of Closing Orders made by Council	5
No. of houses closed as a result of Closing Orders	8

SUMMARY OF HOUSING ACTIONS

(Continued)

No. of Closing Orders made on Part-Buildings	2
No. of Part Premises Closed as a result of Closing Order	3
No. of Undertakings to repair houses accepted by Council to prevent Orders being made on them (Section 16)	2
No. of such Undertakings completed and Cancelled	13
No. of Undertakings (section 24) accepted by Council to repair, improve and alter and reconstruct houses	3
No. of Demolition Orders revoked by Council	1
No. of Undertakings (Section 27) accepted by Council to repair, improve, alter and reconstruct houses	7
No. of Closing Orders determined	10
No. of Undertakings (Section 27) accepted by Council to repair, improve, alter and reconstruct part premises	2
No. of Closing Orders (Part Premises) determined	3

REHOUSING:

No. of Council Houses built	20
No. of Families rehoused from Clearance Areas	19
No. of Persons rehoused from Clearance Areas	44
No. of Families rehoused from houses with Demolition Orders	5
No. of Persons rehoused from houses with Demolition Orders	14
No. of Families rehoused from houses with Closing Orders	8
No. of Persons rehoused from houses with Closing Orders	28
No. of Families rehoused from Part-Buildings with Closing Orders	2
No. of Persons rehoused from Part-Buildings with Closing Orders	4
No. of Families rehoused by Indirect Rehousing (i.e., by exchange to privately owned houses)	Nil
No. of Persons rehoused from above	Nil
No. of Families rehoused by exchange of Council Houses	16
No. of Persons rehoused by Council houses exchange.	59
No. of Families rehoused by Re-lets in Council Houses	10
No. of Persons rehoused by above Re-lets	33
No. of Families rehoused from County Council Home	1
No. of Persons rehoused from above Home	8
Total No. of Families rehoused during the year by Council	61
Total No. of Persons rehoused during the year by Council	190
No. of Families due for rehousing that rehoused themselves	Nil
No. of Persons in above	Nil

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number and Nature of Inspection made.

HOUSING ESTATES:
(Continued)

Housing:

Complaints received	...	...	67
Complaints investigated	...	...	67
Houses inspected and recorded	...	...	12
Re-visits to properties under Notice	...	...	94
Dirty or otherwise unsatisfactory houses	...	...	8
Disinfestations	...	...	10

General Sanitation:

Drainage inspections	...	...	24
Drain testing	...	...	4
Factories	...	...	32
Refuse Collections - Inspections	...	...	6

Infectious Diseases:

Enquiries	...	...	10
Disinfections	...	...	3

Housing Estates:

Council owned houses are as follows :-

		<u>1 BR.</u>	<u>2BR.</u>	<u>3BR.</u>	<u>4BR.</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 Farn Estate: (Reema)	Houses	-	28	87	19
	TOTAL:	4	188	478	19

TOTAL NO. Council owned Dwellings on 31.12.59 - 689

HOUSING ESTATES:

(Continued)

Routine inspections of these houses were carried out during the year, and 62 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 affect, 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 234 applicants on the Register on 31st. December, 1958, and at the end of 1959 there were 217 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 hardships. 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.

FOOD.

Food Premises:

During the year 135 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 Business)	9
Fried Fish Shops	3
Manufacture of Ice Cream	1
Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	29

A total of 76 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,

F O O D.
(Continued)

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.

Inspections at Dairies:

During the year, 27 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:

24 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 <u>not</u> conforming to the standards	...	1

The unsatisfactory sample was reported to the Foods and Drugs Inspector in Brecon.

Licensed Hotels and Inns:

There are 24 Licensed 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.

F O O D.
(Continued)

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

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 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 Rehousing 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.

Inspection of Foodstuffs:

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

Apricots 10 tins
Beans 26 tins
Beef Loaf 2 tins (1½ lbs)
Beef Steak and Gravy 6 tins (6lb)
Corned Beef 34 tins (46 lb 3 oz.)
Fruit Salad 4 tins
Haddock (Smoked) 28 lbs.
Ham 9 tins (115 lbs 11 oz)

F O O D.
(Continued)

Inspection of Foodstuffs
(Continued)

Jan 13 jars
Luncheon Meat 3 tins ($2\frac{1}{4}$ lbs)
Milk (Condensed) 6 tins
Milk (Evaporated) 18 tins
Oranges 5 tins
Peaches 9 tins
Pears 4 tins
Peas 4 tins
Pilchards 3 tins
Pineapples 14 tins
Pork (Chopped) 1 tin ($\frac{3}{4}$ lb)
Pork Luncheon Meat 6 tins (5 lbs. 2 ozs.)
Rice Pudding 2 tins
Salmon 21 tins
Steak and Vegetables 1 tin (1 lb)
Tongue (Ox) 2 tins 12 lbs
Tongue (Lunch) 6 tins (3 lbs)
Tuna 6 tins
Tomatoes 39 tins
Veal (Jellied) 8 tins (48 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 	17
No. of Samples of other Food and Drugs ...	29

In addition to the above samples :-

Biological Samples of Milk supplied	
to schools including samples taken at	
Pasteurisation Plants 	35

All 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 (Brynnawr) 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. Messrs. Weeks (Brynnawr) Ltd. have now taken over the major part of this business of buying livestock, having it slaughtered, and the sale of meat by wholesale from these premises.

The Heathcote Slaughterhouse has a very high "through-put", supplying about 130 shops, mainly in the urban districts of Abertillery, Blaenavon, Brynnawr, 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, Cwmbarn, 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.,
Brynnawr 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, Maesycymer 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 1959.

TYPE	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Steers and Heifers	411	332	230	69	106	193	200	241	262	274	284	267
Cows & Bulls	5	7	7	8	8	9	12	2	11	13	13	16
Calves	69	47	116	36	13	30	50	60	109	84	59	87
Sheep and Lambs	2140	1405	1316	1227	1648	2264	2524	3025	4030	3811	3285	2068
Rams & Ewes	25	20	1	4	8	8	9	43	52	33	10	53
Pigs	717	718	763	715	497	455	411	447	673	834	949	868
Sows and Boars	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	5	1	1	3	1

TOTALS:-

Steers and Heifers	2869
Calves	760
Rams and Ewes	266
Sows and Boars	24
Cows and Bulls	111
Sheep and Lambs	28743
Pigs	8047

HEATHCOTE SLAUGHTERHOUSE

CONDENSED MEAT AND OFFAL FOR 1959.

(Weight given in Pounds)

MONTH	Cattle Killed	Beef	Beef Offal	Calves Killed	Veal	Calves Offal	Sheep Killed	Mutton	Sheep Offal	Pigs Killed	Pork	Pigs Offal
JAN.	416	863	3024	69	-	2	2165	160	232	719	487	102
FEB.	339	172	2075	47	-	-	1425	22	181	720	432	269
MARCH	237	295	1198	116	-	4	1317	96	189	764	417	116
APRIL	77	491	597	36	38	8	1231	78	115	717	296	200
MAY	114	91	705	13	-	-	1656	44	98	499	163	109
JUNE	202	193	1249	30	-	-	2272	31	95	457	73	120
JULY	212	940	1229	50	-	-	2533	32	159	413	167	95
AUG.	243	17	2015	60	-	-	3068	393	235	452	113	97
SEPT.	273	843	2174	109	-	4	4082	124	113	674	348	119
OCT.	287	43	1927	84	-	2	3844	201	315	835	397	136
NOV.	297	68	1924	59	-	-	3295	153	383	925	740	231
DEC.	283	916	1826	87	-	-	2121	93	183	869	605	199
TOTALS:	2980	4932	19943	760	38	20	29009	1427	2298	8071	4238	1783

HEATHCOTE SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Steers & Heifers	Cows & Bulls	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Ewes & Lambs	Pigs	Sows & Boars
No. Killed	2869	111	760	28743	266	8047	24
No. Inspected	2869	111	760	28743	266	8047	24
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cystercerosis:- Whole Carcase Cnd.	1	4	1	26	17	15	-
Carc. in which some part or organ was Condemned	1382	85	5	1626	162	855	5
Percentage of Num- ber Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis & Cystercerosis.	48.20	76.58	0.62	5.66	60.90	10.62	20.83
Tuberculosis only:	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whole Carcs. Cnd. Carc. of which some part or organ was Condemned.	29	2	-	-	-	271	1
Percentage of Num- ber Inspected affec- ted with Tuberculosis.	1.01	1.80	-	-	-	3.37	4.16
Cystercerosis: Carc. of which some part or organ was Condemned.	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carc. submitted to treatment by Refrigeration.	7	-	-	-	-	-	-

CARCASE MEAT AND OFFAL
SUMMARY OF TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED.

Carcase Meat Condemned:

Beef	...	4,932 lbs.
veal	...	38 lbs.
Mutton and Lamb	...	1,427 lbs.
Pork	...	4,238 lbs.
<u>TOTAL:</u> Carcase Meat Condemned	...	<u>10,635 lbs.</u>

Offal Condemned:

Beef	...	19,943 lbs.
Calves	...	20 lbs.
Sheep	...	2,298 lbs.
Pigs	...	1,783 lbs.
<u>TOTAL:</u> Carcase Meat Condemned	...	<u>24,044 lbs.</u>

TOTAL: Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned:-

15 tons; 9 cwts; 2 qrs, 15 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, 1959. 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.

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