

[Report 1957] / Medical Officer of Health, Carmarthenshire County Council.

Contributors

Carmarthenshire (Wales). County Council. no2003000265

Publication/Creation

1957

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/t7wzr874>

License and attribution

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

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

Carmarthenshire County Council

Annual Report

OF THE

County Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1957

LLANELLY :

Printed by the Llanelly Mercury Printing Co., Ltd.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	4
Committee	5
Public Health Officers	5
Statistics :	
Population	11
Births and Deaths	11
Maternal Mortality	12
Infant Mortality	12
Neo-natal Deaths	13
Infant Deaths from Infectious Diseases	14
Cancer Mortality	14
Causes of Death for Age Groups	16
Chief Causes of Death	17
Administration	18
Joint use of Staff	19
Voluntary Organisations	19
Care of Mothers and Young Children :	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	20
Unmarried Mothers and their Children	21
Child Welfare	22
Medical Treatment of Infants	24
Premature Infants	26
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	27
Welfare Foods	28
Dental Care	29
Gynaecological Clinic	29
Family Planning Clinic	29
Child Life Protection	29
Nurseries and Child Minders	29
Domiciliary Midwifery	30
Hospital Provision for Maternity Cases	31
Gas and Air Analgesia	31
Pethidine	32
Trichloroethylene	32
Refresher Courses for Midwives	32
Pupil Midwives	32
Puerperal Pyrexia	32
Supervision of Midwives	32
Health Visiting	33
Student Health Visitors	34
Refresher Courses	34
Home Nursing	34
Prevention of Break-up of Families	37
Vaccination and Immunisation	37
Smallpox Vaccination	38
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation	38
B.C.G. Vaccination	39
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	40
County Ambulance Service	41
Radio Control	44

	<i>Page</i>
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care	45
Tuberculosis	45
Malignant Disease	46
Travelling Expenses of Relatives	46
Home Help Service	46
Health Education	48
Mental Health Service	48
Lunacy Acts	49
Mental Deficiency Acts	49
Cases on Licence	50
Occupational Training	50
Communicable Diseases	51
Acute Poliomyelitis	52
Laboratory Services	52
Venereal Diseases	53
Tuberculosis	55
County Welfare Services	58
Blind Persons	58
Epileptics and Spastics	59
Milk Control	59
Food and Drugs	60
Sanitary Circumstances	63
Table-Vital Statistics, 1957	64

INTRODUCTION

Undoubtedly the most important matter from the preventive services viewpoint was that during 1957 an extended use was made of poliomyelitis vaccine to include all children born after 1942 and all persons who stood in special risk of contracting the disease. At the end of the year 10,519 had received one or two injections of the vaccine and I would like to record my appreciation of the work carried out by the staff of the Health Department in this onerous task. Again as in the previous year communicable diseases remained low in incidence except for the visitation of Asian flu which was widely disseminated in the County in the fourth quarter, and for an outbreak of the trivial Sonne dysentery at Kidwelly, early in the year.

The death-rate from respiratory tuberculosis dropped again to 0.11 per 1,000 population. It is, however, of more significance that the case rate for this disease dropped this year to below 1 per 1,000 population; this trend, it is hoped, will continue in the years ahead and serve eventually to contain this disease.

The Cancer death-rate dropped this year, there being 346 deaths as against 422 for 1956 but the number of lung cancer deaths remained much the same viz., 55 (52 males) in 1957 as against 58 (54 males) in 1956.

It is most pleasing to report that 1957 was the first year as far as records are available that no mother died as the result of childbirth in the county. There was a welcome decrease in neonatal deaths from 24.10 per 1,000 live births last year to 20.43 for 1957. However of 28 deaths in premature children, in 16 no cause other than prematurity was discovered.

Although the Infant Mortality rate and Still-birth rate both decreased slightly as compared with 1956, they are high in comparison with England and Wales. All these factors again focus on the need for improved paediatric services in this area, which I have stressed in previous reports.

The Home Nursing Service continues to increase and with the Home Help Service attends an ever increasing number of the aged and chronic sick in their own homes.

The following table is a summary of the main vital statistics for 1957 and the previous year :—

	1957	1956	England and Wales, 1957
Birth Rate	13.79	13.39	16.1
Maternal Mortality Rate	—	0.85	0.47
Infant Mortality Rate	29.80	31.11	23.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate	20.43	24.10	16.5
Stillbirth Rate	29.34	30.17	22.4
Death Rate	13.72	13.58	11.5

I am grateful for the support and help of the Chairman and Members of the Health and Public Health Committee, and I must record my appreciation of the help and assistance I received from the professional, administrative and clerical staff of the County Health Department.

September, 1958.

R. EVANS,
County Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1957

Chairman : Alderman Edgar Lewis.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. M. A. Lewis.

Aldermen :

Evan Bevan.	T. Ll. Harries, M.B.E.
Frank Davies.	W. H. Mathias, O.B.E.
J. M. Davies.	D. J. Stone.
Thomas Davies.	S. O. Thomas.
Griffith Evans.	T. J. Williams.
John Harries, B.E.M. (<i>ex-officio</i>).	

Councillors :

W. I. Daniel.	Josiah Jones.
D. M. Davies.	Edward Lewis.
G. V. Davies.	Haydn Lewis.
I. T. Davies.	Sidney Lewis.
J. H. Davies.	T. H. Maguire.
L. Dennis.	John Morgan.
D. Ivor J. Evans.	William Morris.
D. S. Gwynfor Evans.	J. D. Phelps.
M. T. Evans, M.B.E.	W. J. Phillips (Abergwili).
H. H. Harries.	Mrs. C. R. Rees.
Gwyn Howells.	S. J. E. Samuel.
Mrs. Loti Rees Hughes.	John Williams.
Rev. R. G. James.	T. E. Williams.
D. G. J. Jones.	J. Zammit.
J. Amos Jones.	

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

County Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer :
R. Evans, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer :
D. G. G. Jones, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Principal Dental Officer :
W. E. T. Llewelyn, L.D.S., R.C.S. (commenced 1st January).

Chief Nursing Officer :
Miss M. Evans, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Organiser of Home Helps :
Miss Joan M. Crossman.

County Ambulance Officer :
G. B. Evans.

Assistant Medical Officers :

Elizabeth T. Davies-Humphreys, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 D. O. Davies, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 M. G. Danaher, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H.
 Marjorie J. A. Lewis, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch. (ceased 28th July).
 Edna E. Williams, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch.
 J. G. E. Collins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
 C. I. Morgan, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (commenced 14th October).
 *E. H. Beynon-Hopkins, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).
 *Gladys M. Herbert, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).
 †Elfyn T. Jones, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).
 Iris A. Jenkin Lloyd, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (part-time).
 Audrey A. Jones, M.B., Ch.B. (part-time).

* Divisional Medical Officer of Health.

† District Medical Officer of Health.

Assistant Dental Officers :

J. L. T. Davies, L.D.S., R.C.S.
 D. L. Walters, L.D.S., R.C.S.
 F. G. Day (temporary).
 Gwilym Evans, L.D.S., R.C.S. (part-time).
 G. Ungood Griffiths, L.D.S., R.C.S. (part-time).

Medical Officer of Gynaecological Clinic :

J. Gwendoline Madel, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor :

Miss F. Hughes, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Senior Nursing Officer :

Miss N. E. Russell, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Senior Orthopaedic Sister :

Miss E. R. Buckley, M.C.S.P.

Assistant Orthopaedic Sister :

Mrs. O. Turner Evans, M.C.S.P.

Speech Therapist :

Mrs. R. M. Morgan, L.C.S.T.

Assistant Organisers of Home Helps :

Mrs. N. Davies.
 Mrs. E. J. Griffiths.

Dental Attendants :

Mrs. V. M. Arundel
 Miss E. B. Evans.
 Miss A. M. Maliphant.
 Miss M. A. Thomas.
 Miss Joyce Jenkins.
 Mrs. Florence Evans (part-time).

Mental Health Social Welfare Officer :
D. T. Longhurst.

Duly Authorised Officers for Mental Health :

- *J. A. D. Hopkins.
- *W. A. Williams (ceased 23rd October).
- *D. J. Hughes.
- *D. G. Jones.
- *D. A. John.
- *Esmor Evans.

* Also County Welfare Officers.

Supervisor Llanelly Occupation Centre and Home Teacher for Mental Defectives :

Mrs. M. A. Lewis.

Assistant Supervisors and Home Teachers for Mental Defectives :

Miss J. M. Lester.
D. E. Ambrose.

Home Teachers and Visitors for the Blind :

Miss S. M. Tidmarsh.
Miss A. Young.
Miss Myra Thomas.

County Analyst :

H. J. Evans, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S.

Inspectors under Food and Drugs Acts :

Chief Inspector—D. R. Watkins.
Deputy Chief Inspector—E. D. Roberts.

Educational Psychologist :

C. B. E. James, B.A., B.Ed., A.B.Ps.S.

Consultants available for County Health Services

Pathologist :

Gwenfron M. Griffiths, M.D., M.R.C.P.

Bacteriologist under the Medical Research Council :

M. H. Hughes, M.A., D.M., D.T.M. and H., Dip. Bact.

Chest Physicians :

J. T. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.
D. B. Ll. Morgan, M.D.

Assistant Chest Physicians :

J. Williams, M.B., B.Ch.
Bronwen N. Davies, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch.

Medical Officer of V.D. Clinic :

D. E. Thomas, M.B., B.S.

Obstetricians :

J. R. E. James, M.B., F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G.

Rhys M. Williams, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.O.G.

Orthopaedic Surgeons :

G. D. Rowley, M.Ch.

R. L. Rees, F.R.C.S.

Ophthalmic Surgeons :

J. J. Healy, M.B., Ch.B., Llanelly.

G. S. Forrester, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S., Llanelly.

A. Philipp, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.O.M.S., Llanelly.

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons :

T. I. Williams, F.R.C.S., Llanelly.

S. Morgan, F.R.C.S., Carmarthen.

Hon. Plastic Surgeon :

Professor T. Pomfret Kilner, F.R.C.S., Oxford.

Paediatrician :

R. T. Jenkins, M.R.C.P., D.C.H., Swansea.

Dermatologist :

D. Leighton Rees, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Swansea.

Consultant Orthodontist :

R. E. Rix, M.R.C.S., L.D.S., R.C.S., London.

Psychiatrists :

Sidney Davies, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

J. Farr, M.B., B.S., B.Ch., D.P.M.

E. J. Eurfyl Jones, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.M.

Child Psychiatrist :

G. Crosse, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

NURSING

District.	Name.	Qualifications.
Whole-time Health Visitors :		
Amman Valley	M. G. Evans	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Ammanford	A. Howells	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Burry Port	R. M. Walters	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Trimsaran	G. M. Williams	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Llangennech	E. Edwards	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
St. Clears	M. E. E. Davies	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Carmarthen Borough	G. I. Evans	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Llanelly Borough	G. Greene	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
	D. C. Insley	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
	G. M. Roberts	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
	G. M. Burford	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Felinfoel	E. M. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Tumble	E. J. M. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Llandybie	A. E. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Pencader	Vacancy.	
Bankyfelin	E. N. E. Davies	S.R.N., H.V.Cert.
Llandeilo	C. M. Bailey	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Llangendeirne	M. E. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Llandovery	M. M. Davies	S.R.N., H.V.Cert.
Nantgaredig	E. Evans	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Cynwyl Elfed	N. G. E. Baker	S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.
Whitland	Vacancy.	
District Nurse/Midwives/Health Visitors :		
Llansawel	M. L. Angel	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Cilycwm	E. G. Cox	S.C.M.
Caeo	S. Jenkins	S.C.M., S.E.A.N.
District Nurse/Midwives :		
Betws	O. G. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Ammanford	L. M. Davies	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Brynamman	A. James	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Garnant	S. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Cwmamman	V. Sharp	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Llangennech	L. C. Evans	S.C.M., S.E.A.N.
	M. E. John	S.C.M., S.E.A.N.
Llwynhendy	M. E. Richards	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Laugharne	E. John	S.C.M., S.E.A.N.
St. Clears	D. Buckler	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Abernant	M. O. Davies	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Cynwyl Elfed	E. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Meidrim and Trelech	S. H. Phillips	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Pwll, Sandy and Furnace	A. E. James	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Gorslas	M. L. Davies	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Tumble	H. E. A. Ratford	S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.
Felinfoel	A. R. Harries	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Dafen	E. M. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M., Tb.Cert.
Kidwelly	R. H. Davies	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Llandybie	L. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Penygroes	S. E. G. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Trimsaran	E. M. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Saron	G. Edwards	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Tycroes	E. J. Davies	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Llandeilo	G. M. Alcock	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Llanstephan	M. D. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Llanybyther	D. Thomas	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Pencader	E. Davies	S.R.N., S.C.M.
Drefach	E. A. Jones	S.R.N., S.C.M.

STATISTICS

Area : 588,472 acres.

Population—Census 1951 : 171,742.

Estimated by Registrar General for 1957 : 170,300.

Product of a penny rate for general purposes : £5,323.

Rateable value for general purposes : £1,414,926.

In superficial area (588,472 acres) the County of Carmarthen is the largest of the Welsh Counties. Its length from the upper waters of the River Towy to the Pembrokeshire border is 50 miles. Its breadth from the River Teify on the Cardiganshire border to the River Loughor is 35 miles. Something like three-quarters of the area is agricultural, and the remainder (the eastern part of the County) is industrial, the chief industries being Coal Mining, Tinplate and Steel. Rather more than one-half of the population is concentrated in the industrial area.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Live Births :

			Male		Female		Total
Legitimate	.....	.....	1177	.....	1096	.....	2273
Illegitimate	.....	.....	37	.....	39	.....	76
Totals	.....	.....	1214	.....	1135	.....	2349

Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population : 13.79.

The following table shews the number of live births registered and the birth rates during the past five years :—

	Urban		Rural		Admin. County		England and Wales
Year	No. Reg.	Rate.	No. Reg.	Rate.	No. Reg.	Rate.	Rate.
1953	925	13.29	1482	14.63	2407	14.08	15.5
1954	902	12.99	1394	13.71	2296	13.42	15.2
1955	871	12.68	1402	13.73	2273	13.31	15.0
1956	889	13.01	1393	13.65	2282	13.39	15.7
1957	868	12.67	1481	14.55	2349	13.79	16.1

Stillbirths

Male	Female	Total
37	34	71

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births : 29.34.

Deaths

Male	Female	Total
1283	1054	2337

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population : 13.72.

The following table gives a comparison of the total number of deaths and death rates during the past five years :—

Year	Urban		Rural		Admin. County		Rate for Eng. & Wales
	Deaths.	Crude D.R.	Deaths.	Crude D.R.	Deaths.	Crude D.R.	
1953	1050	15.09	1165	11.50	2215	12.96	11.4
1954	1101	15.85	1263	12.42	2364	13.82	11.3
1955	1104	16.07	1304	12.77	2408	14.10	11.7
1956	1084	15.87	1231	12.06	2315	13.58	11.7
1957	1066	15.56	1271	12.48	2337	13.72	11.5

Maternal Mortality

Maternal Mortality covers the number of deaths in which pregnancy or childbirth was the primary cause of death. It is with great pleasure that it is reported that no such case occurred in this County during the year 1957. The figures for the last six years are as follows :—

Year.	Maternal Deaths.	Total births.	Rate per 1,000 total births.	Rate for England and Wales.
1952	3	2456	1.2	0.72
1953	3	2460	1.2	0.76
1954	2	2365	0.8	0.69
1955	5	2329	2.1	0.64
1956	2	2353	0.8	0.56
1957	—	2420	—	0.47

Although all abortions are included in the classification of maternal mortality, a truer picture of maternal mortality in the area is obtained by the exclusion of such cases. Maternal deaths in the County for the last six years not due to abortion are summarised in the following table :—

Year.	Total Maternal Deaths excluding Abortions.	Rate per 1,000 total births.
1952	2	0.8
1953	3	1.2
1954	2	0.8
1955	2	0.9
1956	2	0.8
1957	—	—

All deaths due to pregnancy are specially investigated by the Consultant Obstetrician concerned. The County Medical Officer of Health adds his comments to the report which is then passed to the Regional Assessor who submits his findings to the Principal Medical Officer of the Welsh Board of Health.

Infant Mortality

There were 70 deaths of infants under one year old during the year ; an infant mortality rate of 29.80 per 1,000 live births. This compares with a rate of 31.11 for 1956. For England and Wales for 1957, the rate was 23.0, but the rate for Wales only was 28.0.

A classification of 1957 deaths in the County is as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total	Rate
Legitimate	40	26	66	28.97
Illegitimate	2	2	4	52.63
Totals	42	28	70	29.80

The causes of death were :—

	Male	Female	Total
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	7	5	12
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	3	5
Congenital malformations	5	5	10
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	28	13	41
Non-respiratory Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Totals	42	28	70

Infant mortality in the County for the last six years is summarised in the following table :—

Year	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total		England and Wales	Wales only
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate	Rate
1952	75	32.48	3	38.46	78	32.68	27.6	33.3
1953	81	34.94	2	22.47	83	34.48	26.8	31.3
1954	66	29.87	3	34.88	69	30.05	25.5	31.5
1955	60	27.29	—	—	60	26.40	24.9	31.4
1956	68	30.85	3	38.46	71	31.11	23.8	28.9
1957	66	28.97	4	52.63	70	29.80	23.0	28.0

Neo-Natal Deaths

48 infants under four weeks old died (neo-natal deaths) during the year, a mortality rate of 20.43 per 1,000 live births. This figure was 55 for the previous year, a mortality rate of 24.10.

An analysis of the neo-natal deaths in the County during 1957 is as follows :—

			M.		F.	Total	Rate
Legitimate	.....	.....	31	.....	14	45	19.16
Illegitimate	.....	.....	1	.....	2	3	39.47
			—		—	—	—
Totals	.....	.....	32	.....	16	48	20.43
			—		—	—	—

Neo-natal deaths in the County for the last five years are summarised in the following table :—

Year	Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total		England and Wales
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	Rate
1953	53	22.86	2	22.47	55	22.85	17.7
1954	45	20.36	3	34.88	48	20.91	17.7
1955	43	19.55	—	—	43	18.92	17.3
1956	52	23.59	3	38.46	55	24.10	16.9
1957	45	19.16	3	39.47	48	20.43	16.5

Deaths from Infectious Diseases (up to 5 years of age) :

Measles	.....	.....	.....	—
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	.....	—
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	.....	.....	.....	5
Tuberculosis (all forms)	.....	.....	.....	2
Influenza	.....	.....	.....	3
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	.....	.....	.....	—

Cancer

The death rates per 1,000 population for the last five years have been :—

Year	No. of Deaths	Rate
1953	351	2.0
1954	364	2.1
1955	363	2.1
1956	422	2.5
1957	346	2.0

A classification of the causes of death from Cancer during 1957 is as follows :—

Site of Cancer		Age Periods						Total	Grand Total
		0—	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—		
Stomach	M.	—	—	—	1	14	36	51	88
	F.	—	—	—	1	8	28	37	
Lung, Bronchus.....	M.	—	—	—	1	32	19	52	55
	F.	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	
Breast.....	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21
	F.	—	—	—	1	5	15	21	
Uterus.....	M.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
	F.	—	—	—	1	10	7	18	
Others.....	M.	—	—	1	7	26	48	82	164
	F.	—	—	2	4	23	53	82	
TOTALS	M.	—	—	1	9	72	103	185	346
	F.	—	—	2	7	48	104	161	

The following table gives the causes of death in 1957 at specified ages :—

Cause of Death.	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and over.
All Causes—Males	1283	42	3	10	62	371	795
Females	1054	28	4	5	40	208	769
Total	2337	70	7	15	102	579	1564
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	18	—	—	—	3	9	6
2. Tuberculosis, other	6	1	1	—	2	2	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	3	—	—	—	—	2	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	7	—	—	—	4	3	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	88	—	—	—	2	22	64
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	55	—	—	—	1	34	20
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	21	—	—	—	1	5	15
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	18	—	—	—	1	10	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	164	—	—	3	11	49	101
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	10	—	—	1	—	6	3
16. Diabetes	16	—	—	—	1	7	8
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	374	—	—	1	8	72	293
18. Coronary disease, angina	377	—	—	—	7	104	266
19. Hypertension with heart disease	62	—	—	—	—	14	48
20. Other heart disease	342	—	—	—	9	46	287
21. Other circulatory disease	118	—	—	—	7	21	90
22. Influenza	36	1	2	—	6	10	17
23. Pneumonia	49	12	—	1	—	7	29
24. Bronchitis	94	—	1	—	—	20	73
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	81	—	—	1	—	39	41
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	21	—	—	—	—	8	13
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	15	5	—	—	—	6	4
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	18	—	—	2	4	6	6
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	34	—	—	—	—	3	31
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	18	10	—	1	2	5	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	212	41	1	3	8	45	114
33. Motor vehicle accidents	22	—	—	—	10	6	6
34. All other accidents.....	46	—	2	2	15	9	18
35. Suicide	10	—	—	—	—	7	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Total	2337	70	7	15	102	579	1564

The chief causes of death during 1957 and the rates per 1,000 population compared with previous years were :—

Cause of Death	1953		1954		1955		1956		1957	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Heart and other Circulatory Disease	762	4.46	839	4.90	871	5.10	807	4.74	899	5.28
Cancer	351	2.05	364	2.13	363	2.13	422	2.48	346	2.03
Vascular Lesions of Brain	337	1.97	317	1.85	351	2.06	330	1.94	374	2.20
Tuberculosis (all forms)	39	0.23	45	0.26	41	0.24	23	0.13	24	0.14
Pneumonia	66	0.39	48	0.28	53	0.31	38	0.22	49	0.29
Bronchitis	102	0.60	113	0.66	128	0.75	114	0.67	94	0.55
Other diseases of respiratory system	90	0.53	129	0.75	96	0.56	104	0.61	81	0.48
Nephritis	25	0.15	33	0.19	32	0.19	31	0.18	18	0.11

Deaths from the above causes for 1957 constitute 80.66% of the total deaths.

The number of deaths of persons 65 years of age and over was 1,564 or 66.92% of the total deaths in 1957.

ADMINISTRATION

The County Health Services (apart from the School Health Service which is outside the scope of this report) are administered by the Health and Public Health Committee. This Committee have appointed seven Sub-Committees to assist in the administration of certain services, viz. :—

- (i) **Ambulance Transport Sub-Committee**, to supervise the administration and organisation of the County Ambulance Service and to make recommendations for the improvement of the Service. The Sub-Committee comprise representatives of the Authority, the West Wales Hospital Management Committee, the Women's Voluntary Services, and the Ambulance employees.
- (ii) **Care and After-Care Sub-Committee**, to exercise the functions relating to the Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care. The Health and Public Health Committee have power to co-opt on the Sub-Committee persons who are interested in after-care work, provided that not more than one-third of the members of the Sub-Committee are co-opted members. The Sub-Committee have full powers, subject to any directions or restrictions imposed by the Health and Public Health Committee, and in an emergency the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Sub-Committee has full power to make temporary arrangements under the Scheme.
- (iii) **Mental Health Sub-Committee**, to undertake the functions for the development of the Mental Health Service. The Health and Public Health Committee have power to co-opt on the Sub-Committee two members of the County Education Committee and other persons who are experienced or interested in Mental Health work, provided that at least two-thirds of the members of the Sub-Committee are members of the Authority.
- (iv) **Three District Nursing Appointments Sub-Committees**, for the Carmarthen, Llanelly and Llandeilo areas, respectively, to make appointments to vacancies for District Nurses under District Nursing Associations. The Sub-Committees have full power, and comprise representatives of the Authority, the County Nursing Association, the District Nursing Association concerned, and the senior member of the County Council representing the area of the District Nursing Association.
- (v) **Home Help Service Sub-Committee**, to consider and make recommendations in unusual and difficult cases requiring Home Help assistance.

There is no divisional health organisation in the County. The County does not lend itself to divisional administration, although the School Health Service is partly decentralised for the area of the Llanelly Education Divisional Executive.

There are no formal joint "administrative" arrangements with other Local Health Authorities, but arrangements have been made with the Glamorganshire, Pembrokeshire and Cardiganshire Authorities for Ambulance Services along the border areas. Arrangements have also been made with the Glamorganshire Authority for Home Nursing and Midwifery Services in the Cwmllynfell area and with the Pembrokeshire Authority in the Clynderwen area.

JOINT USE OF STAFF

Nine general medical practitioners were at the end of 1957 employed as part-time Medical Officers of Infant Welfare Centres. It is, however, the policy of the Authority, as laid down in the arrangements under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, that general medical practitioners be replaced by whole-time Medical Officers of the Authority. Disadvantages in the employment of general medical practitioners at Infant Welfare Centres include the following :—

- (a) The work of medical practitioners must of necessity make it difficult for them to keep regular clinic sessions.
- (b) There is the possibility of misunderstanding with other medical practitioners whose patients attend the Infant Welfare Centres.
- (c) Detailed preventive work at clinics is generally unattractive to general practitioners.

The West Wales Isolation Hospital is under the medical care of the County Medical Officer of Health and his staff as it was prior to 1948.

When required, the Orthopaedic Sisters of the Authority treat Hospital orthopaedic in-patients.

The arrangements of the Authority for a Mental Health Service provide for the joint use of staff with the Regional Hospital Board.

The Consultant Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Board undertake for the Authority all possible duties in connection with the prevention and after-care of tuberculosis.

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeons (Mr. G. Rowley and Mr. R. L. Rees) under the Regional Hospital Board also attend the County Orthopaedic Clinics.

The County Medical Officer of Health attends the meetings of the Hospital Management Committees for Glantawe and Carmarthen Mental Hospital as well as the Carmarthenshire Executive Council.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

The oldest voluntary organisations in the County with which the Health Authority are working are the County Nursing Association, the District Nursing Associations, and the Ladies Committees of Infant Welfare Centres. The Authority owe much to these early pioneers in voluntary social work.

Unfortunately, there has been a regrettable tendency since the inauguration of the National Health Service, for voluntary effort to decline in connection with the work of the District Nursing Associations. Three Nursing Associations disbanded during the year, making a total of nineteen Associations disbanded since 1948. It had been hoped that when the Authority relieved District Nursing Associations of almost all their financial worries, the Associations would have taken a greater part in the voluntary social work of the community. Although many District Nursing Associations still continue actively as they have done in the past, none has developed social work on the lines anticipated.

Voluntary Ladies Committees are active in the majority of Infant Welfare Centres in the County, but voluntary effort in this field also shows signs of waning. Six Centres now do not have a Ladies Committee.

The voluntary activities of the Women's Voluntary Services, the British Red Cross Society and the Women's Institutes, continue to flourish. The first two organisations are ever ready to assist by arranging escorts for patients without regard to distance or short notice of requirements, and the Women's Institutes are always ready to help by arranging for members to give tuition in hand-work to tuberculous patients. Particular reference must be made to the work of the County Branch of the Women's Voluntary Services in connection with the distribution of welfare foods, and to the tremendous amount of work undertaken by them in maintaining the Hospital Car Service.

All these voluntary organisations co-operate from time to time in connection with the Home Help Service, and the Women's Voluntary Services also kindly allow the use of their Llanelly Office as a Home Help Information Bureau two afternoons each week.

Valuable assistance and co-operation is obtained from the St. David's Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee in the care and rehabilitation of unmarried mothers and their children.

A good deal of assistance is also rendered by the Inspectors of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, but their work relating to problem families and neglected children is now undertaken through the Children's Officer.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Expectant and Nursing Mothers

Ante-Natal Clinics.—In view of the increased attendances at the Llanelly Ante-Natal Clinic, it was found necessary to arrange an additional weekly session. The first additional session was held on the 18th September. At the end of the year, eight Ante-Natal Clinics were maintained by the Authority and twelve sessions were being held weekly. A list of the clinics with information as to the attendances made during the year is as follows :—

Clinic	Sessions weekly	Medical Officer	Attendances		Average total attendance per session
			Ante-Natal	Post-Natal	
Ammanford	{ Two *	E. E. Williams	707	—	9.18
Llanelly		M. G. Danaher	—	68	2.72
Llangennech	Three	M. G. Danaher	1174	37	10.62
Kidwelly	One	M. G. Danaher	353	7	7.06
Burry Port	One	Davies-Humphreys	401	66	9.16
Cross Hands	Two	Davies-Humphreys	741	105	8.63
Pontyates	One	M. G. Danaher	458	17	9.31
Amman Valley	One	E. E. Williams	461	71	10.64
Hospital	One	John Davies	1895	—	38.67

*A Special post-natal session is held fortnightly at the Ammanford Clinic.

1,790 cases made 6,561 attendances at the Clinics during the year, viz. :—

Ante-Natal	.....	1,504 cases, 6,190 attendances.
Post-Natal	.....	286 cases, 371 attendances.

Cases for specialist opinion are referred to Clinics at the West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen, the Llanelly Hospital, and the Amman Valley Hospital, Glanamman.

Blood specimens are taken at all the Authority's Clinics, and the blood groups and Rhesus Agglutinins are made known to midwives and general medical practitioners.

Many general medical practitioners hold their own Ante-Natal Clinics. Midwives do not regularly assist at these clinics, but some attend sessions at which their patients are being seen by the doctor.

Midwives' Clinics.—At the end of the year, two Midwives' Clinics were being maintained in the County; weekly sessions were held at the Carmarthen Clinic and fortnightly sessions at the Llandeilo Clinic. Towards the end of the year, no attendances were made at the Llandeilo Clinic and the Authority made arrangements to close the Clinic. Attendances at the two Clinics during the year were as follows:—

	Attendances.
Carmarthen Clinic	319
Llandeilo Clinic	34

Maternity Outfits.—Maternity outfits are supplied by the Authority free of charge through the domiciliary midwives to all patients confined at home.

Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children

Under the Authority's arrangements, unmarried mothers can be admitted to the following Hostels:—

Northlands, Cardiff.
St. Martin's Home, Hereford.
Cwmdonkin Shelter, Swansea.
56, Stanwell Road, Penarth.

Particulars of admissions and discharges during 1957 are given in the following table:—

Hostel.	Admissions.	Discharges.	In Residence on the 31st December.
Northlands, Cardiff	4	5	—
St. Martin's Home, Hereford	1	2	—
Cwmdonkin Shelter, Swansea	5	6	1
56, Stanwell Road, Penarth	—	—	—

It is perhaps significant of the general change in attitude to unmarried mothers that although 76 illegitimate births were recorded for the County, only 10 unmarried mothers were admitted to Hostels under the Authority's arrangements.

Moral Welfare Workers act as escorts for the unmarried mothers when they are admitted to or discharged from Hostels under the Authority's arrangements.

Close co-operation is maintained with the St. David's Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee in the case of unmarried mothers generally. The Committee assist unmarried mothers in every way possible, and if necessary arrange for the adoption of the infants.

Child Welfare.—The attendances at the Ammanford Centre made it necessary to hold weekly sessions and the improved conditions at the Llangadog Centre justified monthly sessions instead of six-weekly sessions. 36 Centres were being maintained by the Authority at the end of the year.

A list of the Centres and other information for 1957, is as follows :—

Centre	Where held	Day held	Attendances	Avg. attendances
Ammanford	Child Welfare Clinic, High Street, Ammanford.	Tuesday	2414	47.33
Brynamman	Yr Aelwyd, Upper Brynamman	Tuesday	658	28.61
Burry Port	Memorial Hall, Burry Port	Tuesday	1018	37.70
Carmarthen Borough.	The Clinic, Pond Street, Carmarthen.	Monday	1920	39.18
Carmarthen Rural.	The Clinic, Pond Street, Carmarthen.	Wednesday	369	14.19
Cwmamman	Bethesda Chapel Vestry, Glanamman.	Wednesday	700	26.92
Felinfoel	Yr Aelwyd, Penygaer, Felinfoel	Thursday	1116	42.92
Ferryside	Ex-R.A.F. Camp, Ferryside	Tuesday	315	12.12
Furnace	Saron Vestry, Furnace	Wednesday	251	10.04
Gorslas	Public Hall, Cross Hands	Tuesday	1019	19.60
Kidwelly	Trinity Methodist Church, Kidwelly.	Tuesday	746	27.63
Laugharne	The Clinic, Laugharne	Tuesday	648	24.92
Llandeilo	Church Hall, Llandeilo	Wednesday	311	12.44
Llandovery	Reading Room and Institute, Llandovery.	Tuesday	363	14.52
Llandybie	Assembly Rooms, Memorial Hall, Llandybie.	Thursday	694	26.69
Llanelly Borough.	Brynmair, Llanelly	Mon. and Fri.	4609	30.73
Llangadog	Y.M.C.A. Hall, Llangadog	Friday	228	19.00
Llangennech	Salem Chapel Vestry, Llangennech.	Tuesday	728	26.96
Llanstephan	Memorial Hall, Llanstephan	Wednesday	325	13.00
Llanybyther	Victory Hall, Llanybyther	Monday	321	13.37

Centre	Where held	Day held	Attend- ances	Avg. attend- ances
Llwynhendy	Nazareth Chapel Vestry, Llwynhendy.	Tuesday	1102	44.08
Newcastle Emlyn.	The Court House, Newcastle Emlyn.	Tuesday	248	11.27
Pencader	Tabernacle Vestry, Pencader	Thursday	300	12.00
Pendine	The Institute, Llanmiloe, Pendine.	Wednesday	378	15.12
Penygroes	Congregational Chapel Vestry, Penygroes.	Tuesday	867	32.11
Pontyates	Welfare Hall, Pontyates	Wednesday	681	27.24
Pontyberem	Public Hall, Pontyberem	Wednesday	707	27.19
Pumpsaint	Coronation Hall, Pumpsaint	Thursday	59	6.56
Pwll	Salem Chapel Vestry, Pwll	Wednesday	434	16.69
St. Clears	Old Penuel Vestry, St. Clears	Tuesday	471	17.44
Trelech	Capel-y-Graig Vestry, Trelech	Thursday	50	1.92
Trimsaran	Workmen's Institute, Trimsaran	Tuesday	466	17.92
Tumble	Welfare Pavilion, Tumble	Tuesday	441	16.96
Velindre	Red Dragon Hall, Velindre, Llandyssul.	Thursday	293	11.72
Whitland	Memorial Hall, Whitland	Friday	493	18.96
Ystradowen	The County Primary School, Ystradowen.	Wednesday	205	9.32

All Centres are held fortnightly except as follows :—

Llanelly—Three sessions weekly.
 Carmarthen Borough—One session weekly.
 Ammanford—One session weekly.
 Llangadog—One session every four weeks.
 Pumpsaint—One session every six weeks.

Number of children who attended Centres for the FIRST TIME :—

Under 1 year of age	1791
Between 1 and 5 years of age	69
	<hr/> 1860 <hr/>

Number of children under 5 years of age who were attending Centres at the end of the year :—

Under 1 year of age	.....	.....	.....	1528
Over 1 year of age	.....	.....	.....	2200
				<hr/> 3728 <hr/>

Number of individual children who attended Centres during the year—3824.

Medical Treatment of Infants

All arrangements for the medical treatment of school children are available for those under school age, but infants are now generally referred by the Medical Officers of Infant Welfare Centres directly to the family doctors for treatment. The following is a summary of the treatment facilities available for infants under the Authority during 1957 :

Ear, Nose and Throat Defects.—Under arrangements made with the West Wales, Llandovery and Llanelly Hospitals, the County Medical Officer of Health, directed parents to take their children to attend for specialist examination, attendances being made at the Outpatient Departments. Specialist examination at the Amman Valley Hospital was arranged by that Hospital. The names of children found to require inpatient treatment were placed by the specialists on the Hospital waiting lists, and the arrangements for admission were made by the Hospitals.

Eye Defects.—Specialist examinations were carried out at three Centres, viz. :—

- (i) Carmarthen.—At the West Wales General Hospital. Arrangements for the attendance of cases were made by the County Medical Officer of Health.
- (ii) Llanelly.—At Brynmair Clinic. Arrangements for the attendance of cases were made by the Hospital Authorities.
- (iii) Glanamman.—At the Amman Valley Hospital. Arrangements for the attendance of cases were made by the Hospital Authorities.

Plastic Surgery.—The arrangements for the plastic treatment of children at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford, continued and one case of cleft lip and palate was admitted for operative treatment there during the year.

Artificial Light Therapy.—Three children under school age received treatment during the year at the Authority's Clinic at Carmarthen.

Orthopaedic Treatment.—The work of the County Orthopaedic Clinics continued as in past years. The Regional Hospital Board bear the cost of the services of the Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeons: Mr. Gordon Rowley, who paid monthly visits to the County Clinics, and Mr. R. L. Rees, who held a clinic quarterly at Carmarthen. Children requiring in-patient treatment are admitted to Gorseinon, Morriston, Swansea and West Wales General Hospitals. Cases requiring X-ray or special examinations attend at the Out-patient Departments of the Hospitals.

Seventeen Orthopaedic Clinics were functioning in the County on the 31st December, 1957. 2,217 cases were being attended to for all Authorities, viz. :—

County Education Committee	1403
County Health Committee	788
West Wales Hospital Management Committee	11
Glantawe Hospital Management Committee	15

An analysis of the cases of the Health Committee and the Hospital Management Committees according to diagnosis is as follows :—

	Health Committee	Hospital Management Committees	Total
Paralysis :			
Infantile	3	13	16
Spastic	5	4	9
Obstetrical	1	—	1
Other	2	—	2
Congenital Deformities	84	2	86
Infective Conditions of Bones and Joints	1	1	2
Non-infective conditions of Bones and Joints :			
Rickets	—	—	—
Other	1	2	3
Static or Postural Defects	672	—	672
Traumatic Deformities	1	3	4
Multiple Defects	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	18	1	19
Totals	788	26	814

A summary of the work undertaken for these cases under the orthopaedic arrangements is given in the following table:—

	Health Committee	Hospital Management Committees	Total
Number of individual cases under Scheme on 1st January, 1957	865	26	891
Number of new cases during the year	366	3	369
Number of individual cases dealt with during the year	1231	29	1260
Number of cases withdrawn from Scheme	443	3	446
Number of cases under the Scheme on the 31st December, 1957	788	26	814
Total number of attendances made at the clinics	4069	52	4121
Number of individual cases received remedial exercises by Sisters	3	1	4
Number of individual cases massaged by Sisters	—	—	—
Number of home visits by Sisters	339	75	414
Number of cases examined by visiting Orthopaedic Surgeons	129	13	142
Number of cases recommended in-patient hospital treatment by Surgeons	11	2	13

Five children under school age were admitted to Hospitals for orthopaedic treatment during the year.

Premature Infants

Premature infants are those notified as having a birth weight of 5½ lbs. or less, irrespective of the period of gestation. Premature Baby Outfits, which include cots complete with bassinette mattresses, rubber sheeting, blankets, Cestra Premature Baby Outfits, Belcroy Feeders, pipettes, layettes, etc., etc., are available to Midwives during normal office hours at the County Health Department, and at any time of the day or night under arrangements with the West Wales Isolation Hospital.

154 premature infants were notified during 1957 and further information is as follows:—

(a) Number born at home	45
(i) Nursed entirely at home	32
*(ii) Transferred to Hospital	13
(iii) Died within first twenty-four hours	1
(iv) Others who died within first twenty-eight days	—
(v) Survived at end of twenty-eight days	31

(b)	Born in Hospital	.....	.....	108
	(i) Died during first twenty-four hours	.....	.....	7
	(ii) Others who died within first twenty-eight days	.....	.....	18
	(iii) Survived at end of twenty-eight days	.....	.....	83
(c)	Born in Nursing Home	.....	.....	1
	(i) Nursed entirely at Nursing Home	.....	.....	1
	(ii) Died within first twenty-four hours	.....	.....	—
	(iii) Others died within first twenty-eight days	.....	.....	—
	(iv) Survived at end of twenty-eight days	.....	.....	1
* Of the 13 transferred to Hospital :—				
	Died within first twenty-four hours	.....	.....	—
	Others who died within first twenty-eight days	.....	.....	2
	Survived at end of twenty-eight days	.....	.....	11

It will be seen that in all, 28 premature infants died within the first twenty-eight days. Of that number, death was due to definite pathological condition in respect of 12 infants. Prematurity alone was the cause of death of the other 16 infants. In view of these facts, it is once more necessary to stress the need for a comprehensive Paediatric Service in the Authority's Area.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Four cases were notified during the year. The notifications for the last five years were as follows :—

Year	Cases		
	Notified	Treated	
		At Home	In Hospital
1953	12	10	2
1954	5	5	—
1955	6	6	—
1956	5	5	—
1957	4	4	—

There were no deaths from Ophthalmia Neonatorum during this period, and vision was unimpaired in all cases.

Two of the infants were born in Hospital.

Of the four cases notified during the year, three of them were notified by one general practitioner.

Every case reported to have " discharging eyes " however slight and whether or not notified as ophthalmia neonatorum is kept under special observation until the condition is cleared up. Swabs and smears are taken in each case, and the Laboratory results are made known to the General Practitioner, Midwife and Health Visitor.

Welfare Foods

The arrangements for the distribution of Welfare Foods continued to operate satisfactorily. During the year, one voluntary centre discontinued distribution but it was possible to arrange for another centre to be opened in the district. Two additional voluntary centres were opened. At the end of the year, distribution was being undertaken at 51 Centres as follows :—

- 2 Centres staffed by whole-time employees.
- 5 at the offices of Local Sanitary Authorities.
- 20 at Infant Welfare Centres.
- 24 Voluntary Centres.

The Welfare Foods are delivered from the Ministry Depots to a Central Stores in Carmarthen and all the Centres, with the exception of Llanelly, receive their supplies by van from the Central Stores. Llanelly Centre receives deliveries direct from Ministry Depots. Experience has shown that these arrangements work satisfactorily.

Tribute must be paid to the continued co-operation and assistance of voluntary workers in this invaluable, if routine work.

During the period 30th December, 1956—28th December, 1957, Welfare Foods as follows were issued to parents at Centres :—

National Dried Milk	.....	.....	82,425 Tins.
Cod Liver Oil	.....	.....	16,378 Bottles.
Orange Juice	.....	.....	122,172 Bottles.
" A " and " D " Tablets	.....	.....	6,060 Packets.

The figures do not include issues to Hospitals and Institutions from Ministry Depots.

The following table shows the average distribution per week during the four quarters of 1957 :—

Period	29/12/56 to 30/3/57	31/3/57 to 29/6/57	30/6/57 to 28/9/57	29/9/57 to 28/12/57
National Dried Milk (Tins)	1814	1468	1566	1492
Cod Liver Oil (Bottles)	394	284	271	310
Vitamin " A " and " D " Tablets (Packets)	123	116	110	117
Orange Juice (Bottles)	2188	2837	2566	1806

From the table it will be seen that there was a decided drop in the distribution of National Dried Milk during the second quarter. The price of National Dried Milk was increased from 10½d. per tin to 2/4d. per tin on the 6th April and this, I think, can be taken as the reason for the sharp drop in distribution. As the distribution for the third quarter showed some recovery it was thought that the drop was a temporary one only but this was belied by the distribution figures for the last quarter.

At the majority of Infant Welfare Centres in the County, special brand baby foods are also available for sale to parents who have been advised to obtain a particular food for an infant by the Medical Officer in charge of the Centre. This work is also carried out by Voluntary Workers or Health Visitors, except at the Llanelly Infant Welfare Centre where a clerk from the Health Department attends for the purpose. At the Centres where the special brand of foods are not available, the Health Visitors hold vouchers issued by some firms to enable parents to purchase "clinic packs" of the food at reduced prices.

Dental Treatment

The demand from expectant and nursing mothers for dental treatment proved to be very slight, only 15 requests being received during the year. 14 of them required treatment and 12 received treatment.

The following is a summary of the work carried out :—

Number of dentures provided	.....	.....	.....	6
Number of teeth extracted	.....	.....	.....	67
Number of fillings	.....	.....	.....	2
Number of scalings and gum treatment	.....	.....	.....	68
Number who received treatment under general anaesthetic	.....	.....	.....	10

Gynaecological Clinic

This Clinic is held at Llanelly twice monthly for married women requiring advice on birth control on medical grounds. Dr. J. Gwendoline Madel, Swansea, is the Medical Officer of the Clinic.

242 cases were seen at the Clinic during 1957 (117 new cases and 125 old cases) and they made 596 attendances.

Family Planning Clinic

A Clinic is held at Carmarthen under the auspices of the Family Planning Association. Advice is given to married women in regard to spacing of children, and also to those unable to have children. The Association have been allowed by the Committee to use the premises and equipment at the Pond Street Clinic, Carmarthen.

Child Life Protection

The duties in connection with Child Life Protection are now undertaken by the Children's Committee. Although Health Visitors do not now act as Visitors for Child Life Protection such children under 5 years of age continue to be supervised by them as part of normal health visiting duties. On attending school, the children come under the supervision of the School Health Service.

Nurseries and Child Minders

No premises or persons are registered in the County under the Nurseries and Child Minders Regulations Act, 1948, and no application for registration was received during the year.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE

The establishment of Whole-time County Council Midwives at the end of the year was nine, viz. :—

Llanelly Borough	5
Carmarthen Borough	2
Burry Port and Pembrey	2

Ammanford, Laugharne, and Llandeilo District Nursing Associations disbanded during the year and this resulted in the number of District Nurse/Midwives in the direct employ of the Authority being increased to twenty-three. Twenty-five District Nurse/Midwives were still under the control of the District Nursing Associations.

Great difficulty was again experienced in filling vacancies for whole-time Relief Midwives. The establishment of whole-time Relief Midwives is seven but, at the end of the year, there were six vacancies.

122 Midwives notified their intention to practise in the County during 1957, viz. :—

	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses
Domiciliary Midwives	85	—
Institution Midwives	37	—

15 of the Domiciliary Midwives were in private practice but apart from one case, midwifery cases attended by them were those attended while undertaking relief duties for the Authority.

Cases attended by the Midwives in the County during the year were as follows :—

	Domiciliary Cases					Cases in Institutions
	Doctor not booked		Doctor booked		Totals	
	Doctor present at time of delivery of child	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child	Doctor present at time of delivery of child	Doctor not present at time of delivery of child		
County Council Midwives (including District Nurse/Midwives employed directly by the Authority)	18	249	60	208	535	—
District Nurse/Midwives (under Nursing Associations)	11	93	32	123	259	—
Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees	—	—	—	—	—	1570
Private Midwives*	—	—	1	—	1	—
Totals	29	342	93	331	795	1570
* Cases taken while relieving for County Council and included in Table above	5	11	1	23	40	—

The importance of early booking of Midwives by patients has been stressed for many years but Midwives are still called in emergency to cases of which they had no previous knowledge. It is disquieting that after so many years of effort and with so many facilities available free of charge to midwifery patients, we still have the minority who appear indifferent to their own welfare and that of the unborn child.

Hospital Provision for Maternity Cases

All Maternity Hospital accommodation is controlled and administered by the Regional Hospital Board through the Hospital Management Committees. The admission of cases on medical grounds is entirely in the hands of these Committees. The Glantawe Hospital Management Committee also control the admission of cases on social grounds but the County Medical Officer of Health supplies them with information as to home conditions. The County Medical Officer of Health recommends to the West Wales Hospital Management Committee, cases considered to require Hospital admission on social grounds, but decisions as to admission are in the hands of the Management Committee.

Gas/Air Analgesia

All the Midwives employed under the arrangements of the Authority are qualified to administer gas/air analgesia. All the Midwives have been provided with Minnitt's Gas/Air Apparatus except the Whole-time Relief Midwives who use the apparatus of the Midwife relieved by them. Ten private Midwives, who are occasionally employed on relief work, are also qualified to administer gas/air analgesia.

Gas/air analgesia was administered by Domiciliary Midwives during the year as follows :—

	When Doctor was not present	When Doctor was present	Total
County Council Midwives (including District Nurse/Midwives employed directly by the Authority)	281	52	333
District Nurse/Midwives under Nursing Associations	147	25	172
Totals	428	77	505

Pethidine

Pethidine was also administered by Domiciliary Midwives to a number of cases as will be seen from the following table :—

	When Doctor was not present	When Doctor was present	Total
County Council Midwives (including District Nurse/Midwives employed directly by the Authority)	204	34	238
District Nurse/Midwives under Nursing Associations	86	27	113
Totals	290	61	351

Trichloroethylene

Four midwives held Trichloroethylene apparatus which had been issued to them on trial. The trial was considered eminently satisfactory, and it was decided to provide a further ten machines. The additional Trichloroethylene apparatus had not been delivered before the end of the year.

Trichloroethylene was administered in domiciliary cases during the year as follows :—

	Number of Cases.
When doctor was not present	58
When doctor was present	3
Total	61

Refresher Courses

Provision is made by the Authority for Refresher Courses. Sixteen midwives attended courses approved for the purpose of Rule G.1 of the Central Midwives' Board Rules. Two midwives attended a special course of Parentcraft, Group Teaching, and Relaxation.

Pupil Midwives

No arrangements have been made by the Authority for the training of Pupil Midwives.

Puerperal Pyrexia

There were 10 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year ; one was confined at home.

Supervision of Midwives

The non-medical supervision of Midwives is undertaken by the Chief Nursing Officer who is also responsible for the supervision of the work of home nursing and health visiting. A Senior Nursing Officer assists her in midwifery and home nursing duties.

318 visits of supervision were made during the year as follows :—

District Nurse/Midwives	.....	.....	218 visits.
County Council Midwives	.....	.....	63 „
Independent Midwives	.....	.....	21 „
Hospital Midwives	.....	.....	16 „

Special visits of investigation were as follows :—

Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	35
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	.....	.....	38
Maternal Deaths	.....	.....	—
Others	.....	.....	6

HEALTH VISITING

The Authority's arrangements under Section 24 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, provides for the employment of Whole-time Health Visitors in all but three areas. In these three sparsely populated rural areas, the District Nurse/Midwife also undertakes health visiting and school nursing. Unfortunately, at the end of the year, there were vacancies for two Whole-time Health Visitors.

Health Visitors, whose duties include the care of mothers and young children, tuberculosis visiting, and the care of the family in general, are, unfortunately, not so well known to the general public as the District Nurse and Midwife. Vagueness about the duties of Health Visitors, however, is not limited to the general public but appreciation of their importance in the social work of a community is now improving. This is undoubtedly linked with the realisation that social medicine has to play an increasingly important part in the National Health Service.

Every effort is made to ensure co-operation between General Practitioners and Health Visitors. All Medical Practitioners have been supplied with lists giving names and addresses of the Health Visitors and particulars of their districts, and instructions have been issued to the Health Visitors regarding co-operation with the Medical Practitioners. Profitable results will come only slowly and will be dependent to a large extent on the initiative and will to help of the individuals concerned.

Home visiting entailing family level education is of prime importance in their work and it is hoped that in time, clinic work will be done by staff other than the Health Visitors.

The number of home visits paid by the Health Visitors in connection with young children for the last five years is as follows :—

Year	Infants under 1 year		Children 1—5 years	Grand Total
	First visits	Total visits		
1953	2416	19937	24355	44292
1954	2191	21120	25551	46671
1955	2080	20394	27385	47779
1956	2199	19547	27980	47527
1957	2276	19262	27130	46392

Home visits in respect of other cases during 1957 were :—

Ante-natal	.....	.....	.....	388
Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	2211
Collection of swabs and specimens	.....	.....	.....	390
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	.....	294

Student Health Visitors

In an endeavour to maintain the health visiting establishment, the Authority have during the past few years, appointed Student Health Visitors.

While in training, students receive a grant equivalent to three-quarters of the minimum salary scale for Health Visitors. All expenses incurred during training are paid by the students who are required to give an undertaking to serve the Authority for at least two years after qualification.

Towards the end of the year, the Authority appointed two Student Health Visitors to commence training in 1958.

Refresher Courses

A limited number of health visitors are authorised to attend Refresher Courses each year. Three attended during 1957.

HOME NURSING

The arrangements for Home Nursing continued satisfactorily during 1957. At the end of the year, 9 Whole-time District Nurses were employed; seven of these came under the direct control of the Authority. The number of District Nurse/Midwives under the direct control of the Authority increased to twenty-three because Ammanford, Laugharne, and Llandeilo District Nursing Associations had disbanded.

Twenty-five District Nurse/Midwives and two whole-time District Nurses still remain under the control of the District Nursing Associations. I must record appreciation of the co-operation received from the County Nursing Association and the District Nursing Associations.

5,295 home nursing cases were attended during 1957, and 124,251 home visits were made by District Nurses. A classification of the cases is as follows :—

	No.	Percentage of Total.
Medical	3632	68.59
Surgical	1266	23.91
Infectious Diseases	9	0.17
Tuberculosis	163	3.08
Maternal Complications	56	1.06
Others	169	3.19

1,257 of the cases received more than 24 visits each during the year.

The age distribution of the cases attended during the year was as follows :—

	No.	Percentage of Total.
Under 5 years	332	6.27
5 years and up to 65 years	2963	55.96
65 years and over	2000	37.77

The work undertaken by District Nurses varies a good deal from district to district according to the demands of medical practitioners and the type of district. It is, however, obvious that a large part of the time of the District Nurses continues to be taken up by special visits to give injections, as will be seen from the following table.

Special Visits for injections only.		Visits for injections and other treatment.	
No. of Visits.	% of Total Visits for County.	No. of Visits.	% of Total Visits for County.
44671	38.55	8196	7.07

An analysis of the main conditions attended to by District Nurses during the year is as follows :—

Classification.	No. of Cases.	Percentage of all types of cases.	No. of Visits.	Percentage of all types of visits.	Average visits per case.
Tuberculosis (All Forms) and Other Infectious Diseases	152	2.89	9639	8.32	63.41
Malignant Diseases	189	3.59	6250	5.39	33.07
Diabetes Mellitus and other Endocrine Diseases	113	2.15	10466	9.03	92.62
Anaemias	645	12.25	19467	16.80	30.18
Vascular Lesions of Central Nervous System	212	4.03	6598	5.69	31.12
Other Mental and Nervous Diseases	99	1.88	3810	3.29	38.48
Ear and Nose Conditions	68	1.29	590	0.51	8.68
Diseases of the Heart and Vessels	554	10.52	15373	13.27	27.75
Diseases of the Respiratory System	543	10.31	5957	5.14	10.97
Diseases of the Digestive System	299	5.68	2523	2.18	8.44
Diseases of the Genito Urinary System	341	6.48	5456	4.71	16.00
Diseases of Skin and Sub-cutaneous Tissues	391	7.43	5242	4.52	13.41
Diseases of Bones, Joints and Muscles (Except Tuberculosis)	106	2.01	4429	3.82	41.78
Injuries	586	11.13	7846	6.77	13.39
*Therapeusis	127	2.41	495	0.43	3.90
*Preparation for Diagnostic Investigation	130	2.47	240	0.21	1.85
*Social Welfare Work	206	3.91	937	0.81	4.55

* Cases included under these headings have not been included under other headings.

No special provision is made for the home nursing of sick children.

Effectiveness in relieving pressure on Hospitals.—Although it has not been possible to submit complete statistical data which would indicate the actual saving, there is no doubt that the home nursing service was effective in relieving pressure on hospital beds during the year. According to information received, over 400 patients would have had to be admitted to Hospital, or retained at Hospital for longer periods were it not for the home nursing service. These cases included :—

- (a) Early discharges from hospital.
- (b) Patients requiring injections and daily dressings.
- (c) Chronic and aged patients.
- (d) Patients at homes or discharged to homes where relatives were incapable of giving care needed without assistance of District Nurse.

The treatment undertaken by the District Nurses for those cases included injections and dressings (in over 60% of the cases) general nursing, douching, washouts, catheterization, etc.

The extent to which the home nursing service did relieve pressure on hospitals during 1957 is, of course, a satisfactory position, but its continuation may well be prejudiced in the not too distant future if the domiciliary nursing staff shortage becomes more acute.

Refresher Courses

Provision is made by the Authority for a limited number of district nurses to attend refresher courses. During the year, four district nurses attended such courses.

PREVENTION OF BREAK-UP OF FAMILIES

Particular attention is paid by Health Visitors to problem families and regular visits are paid by them. In addition to this, special visits are paid by Senior Nursing Staff as often as it is considered necessary.

In 1950, the Children's Officer was, in this County, designated to co-ordinate all activities for dealing with children neglected or ill-treated in their homes. Bi-monthly meetings are held of a Co-ordinating Committee consisting of the Deputy County Medical Officer of Health, Senior Nursing Officers, Organiser of Home Helps, Boarding-Out Officers, Education Welfare Officers, Probation Officers, representatives of the National Assistance Board, the Local Inspectors of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and the Children's Officer.

Cases are specially considered at the meetings and decisions are reached as to the best action to be taken. Unnecessary overlapping of visits is prevented in this way.

The Authority have also agreed in principle to the provision of Home Helps in cases where it is considered necessary by the Co-ordinating Committee.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The arrangements of the Authority for vaccination against smallpox and poliomyelitis and immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough provide for the work to be undertaken by General Medical Practitioners, Medical Officers of Infant Welfare Centres, and Medical Officers of Health. The majority of General Medical Practitioners co-operate in the arrangements.

Propaganda through personal contact with the parents is undertaken at the Infant Welfare Centres and by the Health Visitors at their home visits.

The heavy demand for vaccination against poliomyelitis had an adverse effect on other immunising procedures. Thus fewer children were immunised against diphtheria—both primary and boosters, and BCG Vaccination of children of 13 years of age also suffered.

Smallpox Vaccination

Records in respect of 1,184 successful vaccinations undertaken during 1957 were received during the year, the ages of the cases being as follows :—

Under 1 year old	.....	.....	1027
Age 1 year	.....	.....	28
Age 2 to 4 years	.....	.....	27
Age 5 to 14 years	.....	.....	40
Age 15 years and over	.....	.....	62
Total			1184

The vaccination of infants under the age of one year is estimated to be equivalent to 43.72% of the registered births for the year. The percentages for the last four years are as follows :—

1954	.....	.....	36.11%
1955	.....	.....	32.25%
1956	.....	.....	39.79%
1957	.....	.....	43.72%

The comparable figures for 1957 for England and Wales 42.97 and for Wales only 29.85.

Lists of children who have not been vaccinated at the age of about 5 months are received from Health Visitors, and the County Medical Officer of Health sends special letters to the parents.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation

Acting on a report of the Medical Research Council on inoculation procedures and neurological lesions, the Minister of Health in July advised that the use of certain prophylactics for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough involved some risk of provoking paralysis in poliomyelitis; the risk being increased by the use of combined diphtheria/whooping cough prophylactic. Consequently the issue of combined prophylactic was discontinued as official policy and general medical practitioners were advised of the matter. The combined prophylactic continued to be available through commercial channels and from records received much of it was still being used by family doctors at the end of the year.

Supplies of diphtheria prophylactic continued to be available free of charge through the Public Health Laboratory Service but it was the responsibility of the Local Health Authority to provide whooping cough prophylactic free of charge for use both at Infant Welfare Centres and by general medical practitioners.

1,304 children, the majority of whom received the combined diphtheria/whooping cough prophylactic, were immunised during the year, and their ages at the time of immunisation were as follows :—

Under 1 year old	885
Age 1 year to 4 years	358
Age 5 years to 14 years	61
Total	1304

1,243 children under five years of age were immunised during 1957 (11.00%) as compared with 1,831 during 1956 (16.34%) and 1,563 during 1955 (13.8%).

The above figures cannot, however, be considered to reflect accurately the immunisation state of the population under five years of age. A number of children at school immunisation sessions have stated that they have been immunised as infants although no records exist. It can be assumed that General Medical Practitioners do not forward records in respect of all the children immunised by them. Nevertheless, there is a tendency for parents to defer immunisation until school age.

The arrangements of the Authority provide for "boosting" doses of prophylactic to be given at five yearly intervals. These "boosters" may be given following sessions for medical inspection at schools or, where the numbers are sufficiently large, special sessions are arranged. During the year 1,093 children received "booster" injections as compared with 1,752 during 1956.

The following table gives the immunisation state of the children in the County at the end of the year :—

No. of children under 5 years of age	No. Immunised	%	No. of children 5—14 years of age	No. Immunised	%
11300	5496	48.64	24400	22886	93.36

Of the 22,886 immunised children between 5 and 14 years of age, 9,262 (37.96%) were immunised or received "booster" injections in the last five years.

BCG Vaccination

Children of 13 years of age.—The arrangements of the Authority for the BCG vaccination against tuberculosis of children of 13 years of age provide for the work being undertaken by Assistant Medical Officers of the Authority. 132 children were skin tested of whom 19 (14.39%) proved positive, i.e., they had at some time or other been infected with tuberculosis bacilli, and had developed a resistance to the disease. In order to ensure that they were not suffering from active disease, they were investigated by the Mass Radiography Unit and, if necessary, by a Chest Physician. Satisfactory reports were received in respect of these children.

All the 113 negative reactors were successfully vaccinated with BCG.

Child Contacts of Tuberculosis.—The BCG Vaccination of child contacts of tuberculosis patients is the responsibility of the Chest Physicians. 1,121 children were skin tested by them during the year of whom 495 (44.16%) proved positive. Of the 626 who proved negative 297 were successfully vaccinated.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Vaccination against poliomyelitis, which was introduced last year, continued during 1957 and increased amounts of vaccine became available although the demand still exceeded the supply.

In May, the offer of vaccination was extended to children born in 1955 and 1956 and repeated to children born in the years 1947 to 1954 who had not previously been registered for vaccination. Late in the year, the vaccination arrangements were further extended to cover children born in 1943 to 1946 and those born in 1957 who had reached the age of six months—the registration of these groups was commenced early in 1958.

During 1957, 7,653 children received the full course of two injections and 1,717 received the first injection only. The following is an analysis of the number of children who completed the full course of two injections :

Year of Birth.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1956	47	57	104
1955	47	68	115
1954	298	279	577
1953	300	321	621
1952	356	335	691
1951	416	430	846
1950	543	524	1067
1949	595	558	1153
1948	612	565	1177
1947	671	631	1302
Totals	3885	3768	7653

At the end of the year there were still 5,950 children waiting the first injection.

Influenza Vaccination

In September, the Minister of Health stated that vaccine designed to give protection against Asian type influenza was being produced and that it would be issued free of charge through Local Health Authorities for the vaccination of those people who were specially exposed to infection and on whom any epidemic placed an exceptionally heavy burden, viz., doctors, nurses, midwives, home helps and ambulance staff. All eligible persons were invited to participate in the arrangements and the following is a summary of the number vaccinated :—

		Received full course of of two injections.		Received one injection.
Medical Practitioners	.....	42	.....	2
Nurses, Midwives, etc.	.....	51	.....	12
Home Helps	.....	67	.....	22
Ambulance Staff	.....	15	.....	7
Total	.....	175	.....	43

COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE

The arrangements of the Authority provide for :—

- (a) A 24 hours service at nine ambulance stations.
- (b) Five "sitting case" ambulances, all dual purpose vehicles, stationed at Llanelly, Carmarthen, Ammanford, Llandeilo and Tumble, respectively.
- (c) A Hospital Car Service for the conveyance of "sitting cases" arranged by the Women's Voluntary Services.
- (d) An Ambulance Control Centre under the County Ambulance Officer undertaking the operational control of the Service and co-ordinating all requests for ambulance transport.

The ambulance stations providing a 24 hours service are as follows :—

Station	Number of Ambulances	Whole-time Drivers	Attendants
Llanelly	2*	5	Two whole-time and Volunteers
Carmarthen	2*	5	Two whole-time and Volunteers
Glanamman	1	2	Volunteers
Ammanford	1	2	Volunteers
Trimsaran	1	2	Volunteers
Tumble	2*	3	Volunteers
Llandeilo	1	2	Volunteers
Llandovery	1	1†	Volunteers
Whitland	1	2	Volunteers

* 1 Ambulance only on 24 hours service.

† Garage arrangements.

During the year the establishment of drivers at the Carmarthen and Llanelly Ambulance Stations was increased from four to five per station. This enabled the reorganisation of the shift system to provide for the stations to be manned between midnight and 8 a.m., instead of the stand-by duty previously operative.

The maintenance and repair of Ambulances continued to be undertaken at local garages. Preventive maintenance of the vehicles is carried out in accordance with a comprehensive schedule at intervals of 4,000 miles. Sub-overhauls are undertaken at intervals of 12,000 miles. Complete overhauls, the need for which is based on the performance of the vehicles, are undertaken as required.

One diesel powered ambulance was obtained during the year to replace one of the older ambulances. It is of interest to note that the fuel consumption of this vehicle was 24.16 miles per gallon as compared with 13.78 miles per gallon for petrol driven vehicles.

There was a slight decrease in the demand for transport during the year, the average number of patients conveyed per month being 4,420 as compared with 4,575 during 1956 (a decrease of 3.39%).

The total mileage for all vehicles also decreased, being 523,523 miles as compared with 534,460 miles in 1956 (a decrease of 2.05%).

A comparison of the mileages for each quarter of the last five years is given in the following table :—

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
March Quarter	143,334	141,310	126,594	133,422	137,151
June Quarter	137,159	132,706	137,612	138,555	136,614
September Quarter	136,879	135,031	132,340	129,186	128,200
December Quarter	132,292	136,598	132,359	133,297	121,558
Totals	549,664	545,645	528,905	534,460	523,523

The average number of trips per month for 1957 was 1,170, as compared with 1,169 for 1956, an increase of 0.08 %.

National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1957

This Act empowers Local Health Authorities to provide ambulances on a repayment basis, in circumstances in which there is no duty under the arrangements made for the provision of an ambulance service in accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946. These are permissive powers and the Act does not alter in any way the duty of the Authority under the Act of 1946. The standard of that service should not be impaired and no part of the cost of arrangements under the 1957 Act should fall on the rates and the exchequer.

The number of operational ambulances in the County was considered to be barely sufficient for normal requirements, but to meet any likely demands under the new Act, the Authority agreed to provide, on request, a reserve ambulance (if available) to standby at sports or other public meetings, provided :

- (i) that an ambulance service driver who was off duty was prepared voluntarily to act as driver of the vehicle for the period required ;
- (ii) that the organisers of the meeting remunerated the driver for his services in addition to the charge made by the Authority for the use of the ambulance ;
- (iii) that the County Ambulance Officer had the right to withdraw the vehicle at any time at short notice.

In the case of individual patients requiring ambulance transport on repayment, the County Medical Officer of Health was authorised to provide the service only where he considered the medical grounds were sufficiently strong.

No requests were received during the year for an ambulance on a repayment basis.

Month	TRIPS					PATIENTS					MILEAGE				
	Ambulances	Hospital Car Service	C.C. "Sitting Case" Vehicles	Hired Cars	Total	Ambulances	Hospital Car Service	C.C. "Sitting Case" Vehicles	Hired Cars	Total	Ambulances	Hospital Car Service	C.C. "Sitting Case" Vehicles	Hired Cars	Total
January	622	202	180	73	1077	2695	577	960	149	4381	20068	10670	5722	4521	40981
February	627	226	143	58	1054	2734	680	959	127	4500	20184	11698	5292	3898	41072
March	729	358	284	82	1453	2728	1089	1542	203	5562	22339	19334	7757	5668	55098
April	622	211	173	81	1087	2317	594	948	190	4049	20050	11040	5013	5636	41739
May	606	213	214	70	1103	2468	608	1271	145	4492	20472	10989	6731	5199	43391
June	781	287	248	74	1390	2716	773	1425	159	5073	23460	14967	8006	5051	51484
July	593	236	213	54	1096	2172	735	1181	149	4237	19351	12402	6298	3895	41946
August	739	256	198	65	1258	2539	655	1010	131	4335	22669	13271	6188	3552	45680
September	604	218	196	63	1081	2060	577	1080	112	3829	18259	11915	5975	4425	40574
October	596	222	161	65	1044	1955	657	894	117	3623	16066	11420	5092	4257	36835
November	772	315	274	27	1388	2697	1007	1522	47	5273	24121	16534	7228	1522	49435
December	566	220	213	11	1010	1846	693	1128	27	3694	16806	11419	6029	1034	35288
Total	7857	2964	2497	723	14041	28927	8645	13920	1556	53048	243845	155659	75331	48688	523523
Average per month for 1957	654	247	208	60	1170	2410	720	1160	129	4420	20320	12971	6277	4057	43626
Average per month for 1956	640	270	204	54	1169	2422	912	1117	124	4575	20667	14133	6214	3523	44538

The following table shows the origin of requests received for ambulance transport during the year :—

Origin	Stretcher cases		Sitting cases		Total	
	No. of calls	% of total calls received	No. of calls	% of total calls received	No. of calls	%
Medical Practitioners	2912	8.36	7576	21.74	10488	30.10
Hospitals	2086	6.00	20773	59.62	22859	65.62
Nurse/Midwives	256	0.73	209	0.60	465	1.33
Clinics	27	0.08	255	0.73	282	0.81
Police	83	0.24	24	0.07	107	0.31
Welfare and Authorised Officers	48	0.14	27	0.08	75	0.22
Ministry of Pensions, etc.	304	0.87	265	0.80	569	1.67
Totals	5716	16.40	29129	83.60	34845	100

Of the 29,129 requests for the conveyance of "sitting" patients 14,331 were conveyed by ambulances.

The proportion of calls received from the various sources are roughly equivalent to that for previous years, and indicate a continued heavy demand from hospitals. There is room for assessing more realistically the needs of out-patients attending hospital clinics.

Radio Control of Ambulances

The radio control of ambulances continued to function satisfactorily and enabled the service to deal more expeditiously with emergency cases and ensured a more efficient use of the ambulances.

The following is a comparison of miles per patient conveyed by ambulance for the last five years :—

Year.	Miles per patient.
1953	9.53
1954	8.43
1955	9.05
1956	9.73
1957	9.87

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

The arrangements for this Service in the County cover :—

- (a) Tuberculous patients and their families.
- (b) Patients suffering from malignant disease, and their families.
- (c) The provision of sick room and nursing requisites required by patients being nursed at home.

The Health and Public Health Committee have appointed a Care and After-Care Sub-Committee to exercise the functions of the Authority under the arrangements.

Home Nursing and Home Helps are provided when necessary under the County arrangements for those services. Care and after-care of patients suffering from mental illness or mental defect forms part of the Authority's arrangements for a Mental Health Service.

Tuberculosis

The work of the Authority is directed to the physical and social well-being of the tuberculous patient and the welfare of his family. In practice, it has been found that the needs of patients and their families are confined to the following :—

- (a) The loan of beds and bedding where necessary to enable a patient to be segregated. Issues were made to four patients during the year, and 17 sets were on loan at the end of the year.
- (b) The loan of sleeping-out shelters in those cases where adequate segregation cannot otherwise be arranged. Two shelters were being used by patients at the end of 1957.
- (c) Assistance to obtain suitable housing accommodation in co-operation with Local Housing Authorities.
- (d) Home Help Assistance. 22 households with tuberculous patients were assisted during the year.
- (e) Nursing requisites.
- (f) Assistance towards the cost of travelling expenses of relatives to visit patients in Hospitals and Sanatoria. 21 applications from relatives of tuberculous patients were granted during the year.
- (g) BCG vaccination of child contacts. Details will be found in the section devoted to Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (h) Occupational Therapy. This aspect of the service has been started only in a very small way in the County. It is an important factor in the care and treatment of patients, and requires expansion.

Co-ordination of the care and after-care work, and the diagnostic and treatment services for the tuberculous patient, is achieved by personal contact between the officers of the Authority and the Chest Physicians and by interchange of reports and recommendations.

Malignant Disease

The Care and After-Care Service of the Authority for tuberculosis applies where appropriate to cases of malignant disease, but the demand for such assistance has been almost entirely for sick-room requisites and Home Help. The only other assistance granted has been the provision of bedding in necessitous cases, but no application for bedding was received during 1957.

Travelling Expenses of Relatives

Assistance is granted by the Authority in necessitous cases towards the cost of the travelling expenses of relatives visiting long-stay patients in Hospitals and Sanatoria. In practice, it has been found that the great majority of applications for assistance have been by relatives of tuberculous patients. One of the applications by relatives of other cases was granted during the year.

Assistance is granted for visits to Hospitals and Sanatoria which are not less than 40 miles from the residence of the applicant, and is subject to the following conditions :—

- (a) That there is urgent reason for the visit because of the patient's serious condition, or that the visit would in medical opinion do the patient good and aid response to treatment.
- (b) That because of the length of the journey the relatives concerned are unable to afford it from their own resources without substantial hardship.
- (c) That subject to (a) above, the assistance is restricted to one relative every month or two relatives every two months, unless a senior member of the Medical Staff of the Hospital certifies that more frequent visits are essential on account of the patient's serious condition.

Venereal Disease

The Deputy Superintendent Health Visitor made 21 home visits in connection with the following-up of cases suffering from Venereal Diseases.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Home Help assistance continued to be provided on the same lines as for last year ; assistance being limited to the amount needed for the essential duties of the household. It is unfortunate that the other needs of patients—particularly the aged and chronic sick, still remain unfulfilled. The welfare of these unfortunate people is outside the scope of the Home Help Service and to those who come into contact with them, there appears to be little hope of a solution to the problem at present except by voluntary effort. I am pleased to report that some Home Helps continue to assist these old people voluntarily over and above their official duties. This, however, caters for a small proportion of the patients only ; greater publicity of the need might perhaps, stimulate voluntary bodies or individuals to take action to fill the gaps in the arrangements for the welfare of the aged and chronic sick.

The extent to which assistance was necessarily limited will be seen from the following table showing the authorised assistance during the last normal week of 1957 :—

Weekly Assistance.	No. of Cases.
6 hours and under	71
Over 6 hours and up to 9 hours	118
Over 9 hours and up to 12 hours	155
Over 12 hours and up to 15 hours	31
Over 15 hours and up to 18 hours	23
Over 18 hours	*6

* Of these, five were maternity cases.

Some cases were taken over by the National Assistance Board during the year but it was also found necessary for the Authority to take some cases over from the Board. The main reason for this was that it was claimed that the patient was unable to find anyone to assist and as the Board's Officers are not required to find domestic helps for the patients, there seems to be no option but to arrange for assistance to be provided under the Authority's arrangements.

670 cases received Home Help assistance during 1957, as compared with 646 cases during 1956. The cases for 1957 were :—

Maternity Cases	73
Tuberculous Cases	22
Chronic Sick	523
Others	52
Total	670

There was an increase in the number of cases assisted during the year. The upward trend in the number of chronic sick being assisted continued during 1957, 523 cases received assistance as compared with 493 in 1956. The ever increasing problem of the aged chronic sick at home can only be solved by a more enlightened basic approach.

404 cases were being assisted on the 31st December, 1957, and at least 337 of them (83.42%) were "long term" cases, i.e., those who had been receiving assistance for more than three months. An analysis of the periods of assistance is given in the following table :—

Period of Assistance.	Cases.
Less than one month	31
One month to two months	16
Two months to three months	20
Three months to four months	15
Four months to five months	9
Five months to six months	2
Six months to twelve months	68
Over twelve months	243
Total	404

The age distribution of the 404 cases was as follows :—

	Cases.
30 years of age and under	10
Over 30 years of age and up to 40	26
Over 40 years of age and up to 50	23
Over 50 years of age and up to 60	46
Over 60 years of age and up to 70	92
Over 70 years of age and up to 75	71
Over 75 years of age and up to 80	85
Over 80 years of age and up to 85	36
Over 85 years of age and up to 90	11
Over 90 years of age	*4
Total	404

* Includes one patient 100 years old.

207 of the cases (or 51.24%) were over 70 years of age, and 299 of the cases (or 74.01%) were over 60 years of age.

These figures again show that the care of the aged remains a solid problem and needs to be dealt with sympathetically in order that as much help and consideration as possible may be granted to them to brighten their closing years.

On the 1st January, 1957, 291 Home Helps were available for duty. 143 new Home Helps were enrolled during the year and 148 resigned. On the 31st December, 286 were available for duty. Service given in the last normal week of the year was equivalent in terms of whole-time employment to 90 Home Helps.

No arrangements were made for training Home Helps during the year.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Health Education is undertaken through personal contact with parents and others, by Medical Officers, Health Visitors, District Nurses and Midwives. As an aid to the staff in this work, pamphlets on relevant topics, including the prevention of accidents in the home, are distributed from time to time.

Particulars are now being supplied by Hospital Management Committees to the County Medical Officer of Health of home accident cases treated at Hospitals. Health Visitors and District Nurses are informed of the cases residing in their areas and advised to use the circumstances of particular accidents to supplement their general health education work.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The arrangements of the Authority provide for :—

(a) the employment of :—

- (i) A Medical Officer to assist the County Medical Officer of Health in the development of the service and its medical supervision.
- (ii) A Psychiatric Social Worker to assist the Medical Officer in the community care of the mentally ill and mental defectives.

- (iii) One Social Welfare Officer for the community care of the mentally ill and mentally defective.
- (iv) Six Duly Authorised Officers who combine their duties of taking initial proceedings under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts with their duties as Welfare Officers under the County Welfare Committee.

(b) The establishment and Staffing of Occupation Centres

It has unfortunately been impossible to implement the provision for the employment of a Psychiatric Social Worker.

Lunacy Acts

During the year, the Duly Authorised Officers arranged for the certification of 30 patients who were admitted to Mental Hospitals under the provisions of the Lunacy Acts. Records have also been received of the following admissions :—

Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890 (Three day Order)	35
Section 21 (1) of the Lunacy Act, 1890 (Justice's Order authorising the detention of patients for 14 days without certification)	36
Voluntary Patients	295
Temporary Patients	4

At the end of the year, the Social Welfare Officer had 8 psychotics under supervision following discharge from Mental Hospitals.

Mental Deficiency Acts

30 defectives (15 males and 15 females) were brought to the notice of the Health Authority during the year ; 13 of them (7 boys and 6 girls) were reported by the Education Committee. These 30 cases were dealt with as follows :—

	M.	F.	Total
Admitted to Hospitals	—	1	1
Placed on Waiting List for admission to Suitable Hospitals*	5	5	10
Placed under guardianship	—	—	—
Placed under Statutory Supervision	10	6	16
Placed under Voluntary Supervision	—	—	—
Action Unnecessary	—	—	—
Action pending	—	1	1
Found not to be defective	—	2	2
Totals	15	15	30

* These cases were under statutory supervision pending admission.

Of the cases reported during previous years, five (3 males and 2 females) were admitted to Institutions during the year.

Eight cases ceased to be under care during the year, viz. :—

	M.	F.	Total
Removed from the Register as " not subject to be dealt with "	—	—	—
Deceased	1	4	5
Left Area	—	—	—
Discharged by Order of the Board of Control	2	1	3
Totals	3	5	8

At the end of 1957, the Authority held records of 207 defectives as follows :—

	M.	F.	Total
At Hospitals	31	55	86
Under Guardianship	2	—	2
Awaiting Admission to Hospitals*	3	8	11
Under Statutory Supervision	32	27	59
In a " place of safety "	—	—	—
Under voluntary supervision	26	23	49
Totals	94	113	207

* These Cases were also under Statutory Supervision pending admission.

Cases on Licence.—Of the 86 cases at Institutions, one female was out on licence at the end of the year.

Occupational Training of Mental Defectives

The Occupation Centre at Llanelly continued to function successfully during the year and there were 28 defectives (16 males and 12 females) on the register at the end of the year, a net increase of seven during the year.

Their ages were as follows :—

	Under 5 yrs.	5-16 yrs.	16-20 yrs.	Over 20 yrs.
Males	—	8	3	5
Females	—	4	3	5

One low-grade defective, a girl aged 7, on the register was admitted to an Institution during the year.

There was an increase on the register in the number of low-grade defectives who required a considerable amount of supervision.

An improvement in the behaviour of the defectives was evident and most of them made progress in handicrafts. There is no doubt that the Centre is fulfilling a useful purpose in the community.

The appointment of a male assistant supervisor at the end of last year has facilitated the training of the male defectives in a wider range of handicrafts. Gardening was also introduced and a small garden at the rear of the premises has proved a useful outdoor activity.

An Open Day was held at the Centre on the 22nd November. The work displayed was of a good standard and found ready purchasers amongst the large number of people who attended. Gratifying as were the results of the Open Day it must be remembered that the Centre was not established to produce articles for sale but to give the defectives social training to enable them to fit more harmoniously into the community in which they live and to give them the satisfaction of a degree of achievement.

Home Teaching

Eleven defectives who cannot attend the Centre are still being visited periodically in their homes for tuition. They also are making good progress with handwork.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The following table summarises the notifications of infectious diseases received during 1957 :—

Disease.	No. of cases notified.
Scarlet Fever	68
Whooping Cough	137
Diphtheria	—
Measles	122
Pneumonia	157
Meningococcal Infection	1
Acute Poliomyelitis :	
Paralytic	3
Non-Paralytic	1
Acute Encephalitis :	
Infective	—
Post-infectious	—
Dysentery	216
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	10
Typhoid Fever	2
Para-typhoid	2
Food Poisoning	12
Erysipelas	12

It will be noted that for the tenth year in succession, no case of diphtheria was notified.

Acute Poliomyelitis

Four cases of acute poliomyelitis (two adults and two children aged 3 and 4 respectively) were confirmed in the County during the year.

All except the four year old child had residual paralysis.

In 1956, there were two cases (both adults), one of which was paralytic.

Dysentery

An outbreak of dysentery was reported at Kidwelly early in the year when a total of 111 cases were notified. Investigations carried out at the Schools proved that 81 school-children were infected; the Kidwelly Central Kitchen Staff gave negative results.

It is not considered that the outbreak originated at the Schools as "gastro-enteritis" was widespread in the area.

The District Medical Officer of Health commented on the outbreak as follows:—

"The outbreak was considerably larger than the number of notifications suggests, many positive cases were not notified and many did not visit their doctor until the infection had passed.

The premises of two producer retailers of T.T. milk were visited. These to my mind left much to be desired. It is difficult to control these undertakings however, and in spite of assurances to the contrary one producer retailer continued supplying a limited quantity of raw milk locally.

I must say that under the existing regulations the control and regulation of this type of milk premises is difficult, if not impossible, and it is my personal view that the continuation of the producer retailer of non-pasteurised 'T.T.' milk is liable to accentuate, if not cause, an epidemic of this kind."

There were mild outbreaks in the Llanelly Rural District—at Trimsaran and Burry Port, and also in the Llanelly Borough.

LABORATORY SERVICES

The Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen, which is controlled by the Medical Research Council, is available for the examination of bacteriological specimens in connection with the County Health Services. The services rendered by the Laboratory are particularly valuable in the control of epidemics, and full co-operation is maintained between the staff of the Laboratory and the Health Department. 21,168 specimens were examined at the Laboratory during 1957.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Carmarthenshire cases are treated at the Venereal Diseases Clinics at Mount Pleasant Hospital, Swansea and Llanelly General Hospital. 91 new patients from the County attended during the year as follows:—

	Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	Non-V.D. and other conditions	Total
Swansea Clinic	2	1	53	56
Llanelly Clinic	8	3	24	35
Total	10	4	77	91

Total attendances of patients during the year :—

Swansea Clinic	485
Llanelly Clinic	552
Total	1037

The following Table gives the number of cases dealt with for the first time during each of the last five years :—

Year	Acquired and Congenital Syphilis			Gonorrhoea			Other conditions
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	T.
1953	1	4	5	11	2	13	67
1954	6	2	8	21	1	22	73
1955	—	3	3	12	2	14	77
1956	4	2	6	17	3	20	85
1957	3	7	10	4	—	4	77

The following Table summarises the work of the Clinics during 1957 :—

New and Old Cases	Swansea Clinic		Llanelly Clinic		Total Male	Total Female	Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.			
(1) Cases under treatment or observation on January 1st	20	6	15	5	35	11	46
(2) Returned defaulters	—	—	1	1	1	1	2
(3) Dealt with for the first time and suffering from :—							
(a) Syphilis :							
Primary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Secondary	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Latent first year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Later stages	—	1	3	3	3	4	7
Congenital	—	1	—	1	—	2	2
Others	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Gonorrhoea	1	—	3	—	4	—	4
(c) Other conditions or Undiagnosed	51	2	20	4	71	6	77
Totals	72	10	42	15	114	25	139
Attendances as Out-Patients :—							
(a) Seen by Medical Officer	182	61	205	92	387	153	540
(b) For intermediate treatment	171	71	204	51	375	122	497
Total attendances	353	132	409	143	762	275	1037

The following Table shows the results of treatment in 1957 :—

	Swansea Clinic			Llanelly Clinic		
	Syphilis	Gonor-rhoea	Other conditions	Syphilis	Gonor-rhoea	Other conditions
Cases under treatment, etc., on January 1st	5	6	15	15	—	5
Cases dealt with for first time, including new cases, returned defaulters and transfers in	2	1	53	9	4	24
Total	7	7	68	24	4	29
Discharged cured after completion of treatment	—	4	52	6	2	25
Ceased to attend before completion of treatment and/or observation	—	2	—	1	—	—
Cases under treatment or observation that died from the disease	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transferred out to other Centres, Institutions, etc.	—	1	—	2	—	—
Cases remaining under treatment, etc., on 31st December	7	—	16	15	2	4
Totals	7	7	68	24	4	29

TUBERCULOSIS

Two Chest Physicians each with an Assistant Chest Physician cover the County. The Physicians of Pembrokeshire and Swansea also attend Carmarthenshire cases along the borders of the County.

The number of new cases reported by formal notification or otherwise and the case rates per 1,000 population during the past five years are as follows :—

Year	No. of Respiratory cases	Case rate	No. of Non-Respiratory cases	Case rate
1953	215	1.26	29	.17
1954	197	1.15	43	.25
1955	192	1.12	40	.23
1956	223	1.31	29	.17
1957	157	0.92	20	.12

The mortality figures for the same five years are as follows :—

Year	Deaths from Respiratory T.B.	Death Rate per 1,000 population	Deaths from Non- Respiratory T.B.	Death Rate per 1,000 population
1953	32	.19	7	.04
1954	39	.23	6	.04
1955	38	.22	3	.02
1956	23	.13	—	—
1957	18	.11	6	.04

The following Table shows the age distribution of all new cases notified during 1957 :—

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—1	—	1	—	—	1
1—5	2	1	—	1	4
5—15	4	6	2	3	15
15—25	11	16	2	3	32
25—35	15	19	2	—	36
35—45	15	5	—	3	23
45—55	14	7	—	—	21
55—65	21	5	1	—	27
65+	7	8	1	2	18
Total	89	68	8	12	
Grand Total	157		20		177

The following Table shows the deaths from Tuberculosis classified into the various age groups for the year 1957 :—

Age Periods	Deaths from Tuberculosis			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	1
1—5	—	—	—	1
5—15	—	—	—	—
15—45	1	2	—	2
45—65	8	1	1	1
65+	1	5	—	—
Totals	10	8	1	5
Grand Totals	18		6	

Examinations at Chest Clinics

During the year, 3,915 new cases, including 1,231 contacts, were examined. Of these 141 were diagnosed as definitely tuberculous and 3,409 as non-tuberculous. 365 cases were not finally diagnosed.

Register of Cases.

The following table summarises for the year the Register of Tuberculosis cases in the County :—

	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Totals		Grand Total	Rate per 1,000 population.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Cases on Register 1/1/57	703	595	108	131	811	726	1537	9.02
New Cases, 1957	89	68	8	12	97	80	177	1.04
Withdrawn :—								
Recovered	36	31	8	11	44	42	86	—
Left Area	19	13	1	4	20	17	37	—
Change of Diagnosis	6	2	—	—	6	2	8	—
Deaths	10	8	1	5	11	13	24	—
On Register, 1/1/58	721	609	106	122	827	732	1559	9.15

COUNTY WELFARE SERVICES

Under the National Assistance Act, 1948, the County Council were given power to make arrangements for promoting the welfare (but excluding financial assistance or medical treatment) of persons who are blind, deaf or dumb, aged, and others who are substantially and permanently handicapped. The County Welfare Committee was appointed to undertake the Council's functions under the Act.

Blind Persons

There is no change to report in the arrangements for the care and welfare of blind persons, and the Carmarthenshire Blind Society continued to act as agents of the County Council. Medical examination and certification of cases is arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health, and specialist examination, when necessary, is undertaken at the Ophthalmic Clinics of the Regional Hospital Board at Carmarthen and Llanelly. If a patient is unable to travel, a domiciliary visit is made by the Ophthalmologist.

During 1957, 80 new cases (37 males and 43 females) were examined and 62 (31 male and 31 female) were certified as blind, and 10 (3 males and 7 females) were found to be partially blind. The total number of blind persons on the Register at the end of the year was 591 (as compared with 608 on the 31st December, 1956). The age distribution of these cases was as follows :—

Age	M.	F.	Total	Age	M.	F.	Total
0—5	1	—	1	50—60	26	28	54
5—15	4	4	8	60—70	29	80	109
15—30	10	2	12	Over 70	124	231	355
30—50	28	24	52	Totals	222	369	591

254 (84 male and 170 female) became blind when over 65 years of age. 24 (9 male and 15 female) became blind in infancy (under 12 months old).

At the end of the year two males were under training at the Cardiff Institute for the Blind. One male was under training as a Telephonist in London. One male was studying Social Science at University College, Cardiff. Seven males were employed at home. Five males and one female were employed in workshops (two males at Swansea, three males and one female at Llanelly).

Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which Section F. 1 of Form B.D.8. recommends :—				
(a) No treatment	14	6	—	19
(b) Treatment (medical surgical or optical)	25	3	—	5
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment	21	3	—	4

Ophthalmia Neonatorum :

- (i) Total number of cases notified during the year—4.
(ii) Number of cases in which :—
- | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| (a) Vision lost | | | } Nil |
| (b) Vision impaired ..... | ..... | ..... |  |
| (c) Treatment continuing at end of year ..... | ..... | ..... |  |

Epileptics and Spastics

There are no arrangements catering for the special welfare needs of adults suffering from Epilepsy or Cerebral Palsy. The County Welfare Committee, however, bear the maintenance fees in respect of two epileptics at Homes for Epileptics, and one old poliomyelitis case at a Home for Cripples.

MILK CONTROL

The number of animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, during the past five years is as follows :—

1953 .....	.....	.....	2
1954 .....	.....	.....	1
1955 .....	.....	.....	Nil
1956 .....	.....	.....	Nil
1957 .....	.....	.....	Nil

The enforcement of regulations relating to Raw Milk is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries [Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949].

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, responsibility for the registration of dairy farms and of persons carrying on the trade of dairy farmer falls on the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Local Authorities retain responsibility for dairies which are not dairy farms and of dairymen who are not dairy farmers, and for the enforcement of the regulations relating to diseases communicable to man.

FOOD AND DRUGS

The duty of the County Council under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, to ensure that food sold for human consumption is of good quality and wholesome is an important part of the comprehensive public services which are essential to good health. The following is the report of the Chief Inspector of Food and Drugs for the year :

REPORT OF CHIEF INSPECTOR

During the year, 1,825 samples of various articles of food and drugs were procured for examination and analysis for compositional quality and purity. Of these samples 1,019 were submitted to the Public Analyst for the County ; 743 informal samples of milk and 63 informal samples of Spirits were tested by the sampling officers.

In addition to the above, 1,189 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health laboratory for bacteriological or biological examination.

Summary of the Samples Procured

Samples of MILK submitted to the Public Analyst.

Total number	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	743
Certified Genuine	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	644
Deficient in Non-Fatty/Solids but otherwise genuine	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Containing Added Water	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Deficient in Fat	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31
Deficient in both Fat and Non-Fatty/Solids	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25

Included in the above total are eight "appeal to cow" samples of milk, two of which were reported to be genuine whereas the other six were deficient in fat and/or non-fatty-solids.

It is gratifying to note that the number of samples found to contain added water was low in comparison with previous years. Legal action was taken against one milk producer in respect of two of the samples, both of which were certified to contain $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ added water, and fines and costs totalling £10 12s. 0d., were imposed. The percentage of added water in the other sample was very small and having regard to all the circumstances legal action was not taken.

A number of the samples reported deficient in fat were followed up with visits to the farms and dairies to take further samples, etc., but after careful investigations it was felt that legal action was not justifiable in respect of any of the samples.

Informal Samples of MILK tested by the Sampling Officers.

Total number tested	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	743
Number found Genuine	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	677
Deficient in Fat	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
Deficient in both Fat and Non-Fatty-Solids	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Deficient in Non-Fatty/Solids	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23

These samples were taken at schools, canteens, County Council homes, hospitals, welfare centres, etc. The unsatisfactory samples were followed up by taking official samples where this was considered necessary.

" Foreign Objects " in Milk.

Complaints were received from a school of a bottle of milk containing a piece of glass, and on another occasion a metal foil cap being found in a bottle of milk. Whilst a serious view is taken of such occurrences, because of certain features and circumstances, legal proceedings were not instituted on these occasions. The managing director of the dairy company concerned gave an assurance that the matter had been taken up very severely with the bottling manager at the creamery concerned.

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS

The samples procured and submitted to the Public Analyst comprised the following :—

Name of Article	No. Samples.	Certified as adulterated or below standard.
Ice Cream	57	5
Fruit Preserves	26	—
Butter	24	1
Margarine	19	3
Salad Cream, Sauce and Pickles	14	—
Canned Vegetables and Soups	13	—
Sausages	12	—
Soft Drinks	10	—
Condensed and Evaporated Milk.....	9	1
Cakes	7	2
Marzipan and Almond Paste	7	7
Tinned Meat	6	1
Meat and Fish Pastes	6	—
Bread	5	—
Malt Vinegar	5	—
Cake and Pudding Mixtures	5	—
Cream	5	—
Cheese	5	—
Tea	4	—
Tinned Fruit	4	—
Lard	3	—
Baking Powder and Raising Powder	3	—
Butter Confectionery	2	—
Ground Almonds	2	—
Cut Lump Salt	2	1
Miscellaneous Foods	13	—
Miscellaneous Drugs	5	—
Spirits	3	3
	<hr/> 276	<hr/> 24

Unsatisfactory Samples

Ice Cream.—One sample was reported to be 42% deficient in Fat and another sample 20% deficient in Fat and 7.4% deficient in other Milk Solids. Legal proceedings were instituted in respect of these samples and fines and costs totalling £11 were imposed. Three samples of ice cream were reported to be slightly deficient in Milk Solids other than Fat.

Spirits.—Proceedings were taken against a licensee for selling Whisky containing 4.6% excess water and Gin containing 1.1% excess water. Fines and costs totalling £5 10s. 0d. were imposed. Proceedings were taken against another licensee for selling Whisky containing 3.7% excess water and for obstructing a sampling officer by refusing to supply a sample of Gin. Fines and costs totalling £12 10s. 0d. were imposed.

Marzipan and Almond Paste.—There is no statutory standard for the ground almond content of Marzipan and Almond Paste but it is generally accepted by Public Analysts and the trade that the ground almond content should be at least 25%. The seven samples taken were reported to contain less than the generally accepted percentage of ground almond. In view of the fact that there was every likelihood of a standard being agreed upon in the near future and other considerations, it was deemed unwise to take legal action in respect of any of these samples.

Butter and Margarine.—These samples were unsatisfactory on account of the moisture content being slightly in excess of the permitted maximum.

"Butterfull" Cake.—It was considered that the description applied to this cake implied that the fat used was butter-fat but the Public Analyst found that the butter-fat content was only about one-fifth of the total fat. Legal proceedings were instituted against the manufacturers but the Magistrates found that the label was not calculated to mislead and dismissed the charge. It is significant, however, that subsequently the description on the label was altered.

The *Condensed Milk* was slightly deficient in Milk Solids and the *Cut Lump Salt* contained a very small amount of matter insoluble in water. The *Luncheon Meat* was found to be discoloured along the edge of the container. The Public Analyst reported that whilst the discoloured portion of the meat looked unappetising the extent of the contamination was not such as to be injurious to health. The manufacturers of these articles were informed of the results of the analysis and the wholesalers of the meat returned the whole consignment to their suppliers.

Informal samples of Spirits tested by the sampling officers

Number of samples tested	.....	.....	.....	63
Number suspected of being adulterated	.....	.....	.....	4

Official samples were taken at the same time from the suppliers of the samples suspected of being adulterated and particulars relating to these official samples submitted to the Public Analyst have been included above.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations

Visits of inspection were made at regular intervals to the five milk depots in the County in respect of which licences have been granted by the County Council authorising the use of the designation "Pasteurised" in relation to the milk heat-treated at these depots.

Two hundred and seventy-seven samples of pasteurised milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health laboratory for examination. Seven of these were reported to have failed to satisfy the prescribed tests.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order

Observation was kept in the eastern half of the County, where the above Order mainly applies, to ensure that all milk retailed was supplied in properly capped or sealed containers labelled with the appropriate designation—Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised. No serious infringements of the Order were observed during the year.

Milk supplied to Schools under the Milk in Schools Scheme

Samples were taken for examination for bacteriological and compositional quality at approximately monthly intervals from all the milk vendors supplying milk to schools in the County. The samples tested for compositional quality have already been referred to in this report.

The results of the bacteriological tests are summarised as follows :—

	Pasteurised Milk. Raw Milk.	
Satisfactory	315	392
Unsatisfactory	20	80
	<hr/> 335	<hr/> 472

Twelve samples of raw milk were sent for biological examination. All of these were reported to be free from tuberculosis infection but one showed a slight trace of *Brucella Abortus* infection.

Other samples of Milk sent to the Public Health Laboratory

Eighty-six samples of milk taken at hospitals, children's homes, etc., were sent for bacteriological examination and seven for biological examination.

Fourteen samples failed the prescribed bacteriological tests and the suppliers were notified of these failures. The seven samples examined were reported to be free from Tuberculosis and *Brucella Abortus* infection.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

At the time of the completion of this report only the District Medical Officers for Llanelly Borough, Kidwelly Borough and Llandeilo Urban District had submitted their reports on the sanitary circumstances of the areas. The following is a summary :—

Water Supply

Llanelly Borough.—Three main extensions to housing sites were completed and one was under construction.

Kidwelly Borough.—The Quarry Water Supply Scheme was completed.

Sewage Disposal

Llanelly Borough.—The construction of sewers for the Bigyn Housing site was completed.

Llandeilo Urban District.—A re-organisation of the sewers in the area was commenced.

VITAL STATISTICS, 1957

Name of District	Estimated Population for 1957	Live Births		Deaths registered in District		Transferable Deaths		Deaths under 1 year		Area of District in Acres	Census 1951 Total population.
		No.	Rate per 1,000 Popula- tion	No.	Rate per 1,000 Popula- tion	Outward	Inward	No.	Rate per 1,000 Live Births		
URBAN :											
Llanelli	32,110	395	12.30	476	14.82	75	38	5	12.66	2069	34,329
Carmarthen	11,860	161	13.58	243	20.49	128	11	3	18.63	5160	12,121
Llandeilo	1,840	24	13.04	34	18.48	1	8	—	—	311	2,003
Llandovery	1,950	31	15.90	19	9.74	16	4	2	64.52	1266	1,856
Kidwelly	3,010	37	12.29	48	15.95	1	8	1	27.03	2854	3,007
Newcastle Emlyn	730	7	9.59	14	19.18	—	1	—	—	208	763
Ammanford	6,680	73	10.93	104	15.57	3	28	4	54.79	944	6,578
Burry Port	6,030	91	15.09	71	11.77	—	20	1	10.99	1374	5,927
Cwmamman	4,290	49	11.42	57	13.29	10	15	1	20.41	756	4,593
Total	68,500	868	12.67	1066	15.56	234	133	17	19.59	14942	71,177
RURAL:											
Llanelli	39,600	593	14.97	451	11.39	29	102	20	33.73	51367	37,000
Carmarthen	28,260	436	15.43	352	12.46	8	74	18	41.28	202733	28,469
Llandeilo	25,470	331	12.99	334	13.11	9	91	9	27.19	236588	26,404
Newcastle Emlyn	8,470	121	14.29	134	15.82	7	23	6	49.59	82842	8,692
Total	101,800	1481	14.55	1271	12.48	53	290	53	35.79	573530	100,565
Urban Districts	68,500	868	12.67	1066	15.56	234	133	17	19.59	14942	71,177
Rural Districts	101,800	1481	14.55	1271	12.48	53	290	53	35.79	573530	100,565
Whole County	170,300	2349	13.79	2337	13.72	287	423	70	29.80	588472	171,742
England and Wales	—	—	16.1	—	11.5	—	—	—	23.0	—	—