

[Report 1941] / Medical Officer of Health, Chepstow U.D.C. and R.D.C.

Contributors

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CHEPSTOW URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS.

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

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1941.



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LIST OF URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.

CHAIRMAN: MR.J.WADLEY, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: MR.A.W.ANDREWS.

COUNCILLORS

Mr.C.E.Morgan	Mr.E.Woods
Mr.J.F.Price	Mr.D.H.Davies
Mr.E.J.King	Mr.W.P.Tuck
Mr.J.Keenan	Mr.W.C.Hall
Mr.G.H.Clarke, J.P.	Mr.A.J.Proctor
Mr.A.J.James	Mr.C.Hollins
Mr.W.Wyatt	

Officers of the Council

CLERK: MR.A.Gill

Town Surveyor & Inspector:

Mr.E.T.Williams, M.R.S.I.

Rating Officer: Mr.G.J.Vincent.

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr.J.J.O'Reilly, M.B., B.Ch. D.P.H.

LIST OF URBAN DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

CHAIRMAN: MR. J. WATKINS, J.P.
VICE-CHAIRMAN: MR. A. W. ARNOLD

COUNCILLORS

Mr. E. H. Brown	Mr. J. E. Brown
Mr. J. H. Davis	Mr. J. P. Price
Mr. W. J. Jack	Mr. E. J. King
Mr. E. C. Hall	Mr. J. W. Green
Mr. A. J. Foster	Mr. G. H. Clarke, J.P.
Mr. C. Collins	Mr. J. J. Jones
	Mr. W. W. West

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

CLERK: MR. T. A. GILL

Chief Officer: Mr. J. W. Green
Town Surveyor & Inspector: Mr. J. H. Davis
Rating Officer: Mr. J. W. Green
Medical Officer of Health: Dr. J. J. O'Reilly, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

CHEPSTOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
CHEPSTOW, Mon.
1st July, 1942.

List of Rural District Councillors

CHAIRMAN: Rev: Ivor Davies.

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Mr.D.H.Parry.

Councillors

Mr.R.G.Benjamin.	Mr.W.C.Jones
Mr.A.E.Boye	Mr.J.E.Liddiard
Mr.H.J.Cane	Mr.T.W.Lines
Mr.H.Hastings Clay	Mrs.M.E.Paget
Mr.J.Edwards	Mr.H.L.Price
Mr.W.H.Gale	Mr.J.W.Price
Mr.A.Hale	Mr.N.W.Price
Mrs.G.I.Heath	Mr.C.R.Read
Mr.J.E.Hancock	Mr.A.Reece
Mr.F.H.Hewings	Mr.E.S.Sparks
Mr.S.M.Hill	Mr.S.J.Thorne
Mr.T.Hillier	Mr.A.W.Wainwright
Mr.H.Hughes	Mr.F.C.Walker
Mr.A.Jones	Mr.W.Watkins
Mr.J.Jones	Mr.W.T.Wheeler
Mr.R.Jones	Canon W.H.Williams

Officers of the Council

CLERK: Mr.G.D.Spearing

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor

Mr.Hugh J.Ward, A.M.I.S.E., Cert. R.S.I.,
Cert.Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Sanitary Inspector

Mr.L.Whittingham, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Cert.S.I.B. Cert.Inspector of Meat and
other Foods.

Water Inspector: Mr.W.J.Hodge.

Medical Officer of Health

Dr.J.J.O'Reilly, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Valuation Officer: Mr.T.T.Birbeck, F.A.I.

Rating Clerk: Mr.J.W.T.Smith (on Military Service)

Acting Rating Clerk: Mr.G.E.Dowle (on Military
Service)

Rate Collectors.

Caldicot Collection District	...	...	Mr.E.Squibbs.
Mathern Collection District	Mr.M.E.Smith.
Shirenewton Collection District	Mr.F.C.Price.

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"St. Anns",
CHEPSTOW,
September, 1942.

To The Chairman and Members of
Chepstow Urban and Rural District Councils:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report on the Health of the people and the Public Health activities of your Councils during the year 1941.

Emergency war schemes have largely replaced the routine work of Local Government Bodies and new and unusual responsibilities have crowded on them. The shortage of experienced clerical staff has been an added strain on key officials. Nevertheless Local Government machinery is standing up to the test ably, and may well prove one of the major successes of the crisis.

The Casualty Services in your Districts are carefully organised and may be expected to give a good account of themselves. In a very recent competition, Chepstow Mobile Unit (Dr. Joste Smith) was adjudged first in Monmouthshire, and certain other components of the service are little behind it. Cooperation between the Military Medical Services and our own in the event of land fighting was planned, and to this Capt. E. W. Hardman, Medical Officer, Home Guard, devoted much care.

The general health of the community is remarkably good. It is true there are many circumstances in our present way of life which, operating over a long period, would affect the public health adversely - such for instance as overcrowding and industrial fatigue - but the gains have proved greater. People are engrossed in a great enterprise and the innumerable little illnesses, so understandable in the dreary years of stagnation, have no place now. Nutrition is better despite the annoying shortages, because it is directed now by disinterested experts instead of by the publicity departments of patent food firms.

Regarding the possibility of epidemic disease on the scale of the War, only one of the historic plagues would seem to retain much of its old menace - that is the "black" influenza which swept through the world at the close of the last War in 1918-19, killing, it is estimated in India alone, more than the total War casualties, and leaving behind many unsolved problems as to its cause, epidemic course and control.

ST. Louis
Missouri
September 1941

The Chairman and members of
the Board of Health

Dear Sirs:

I have pleasure in presenting to you the results
of the people and the public health activities of your
community during the year 1941.

Emergency war activities have largely reduced the routine
work of local government bodies and has had a serious effect
on the health of the community. The shortage of experienced
personnel has been a serious factor in the health of the
community. Local government machinery is standing up to
the test and will prove one of the major agencies
of the future.

The community health is now becoming an increasingly
important and we are expected to give a good account of
ourselves. In a very recent publication, "Community Health
and the Future" (Dr. Joseph Smith) was written that in the future
and certain other agencies of the service are little
known. Cooperation between the military and the
civilian is essential in the event of land fighting war planned
and to the people. The National Health Service, Home Guard,
and the community.

The general health of the community is remarkably good.
It is to be noted that the health of the community is
of life which is a long period, which is a
the public health service - even for instance as over-
crowding and industrial factors - but the gains have proved
greater. People are engaged in a great enterprise and
the community health is a success, so understandable in the
great years of expansion, have no place now. The health
is better because the working classes, because it is
better and by distinguished experts and by the
publicly dependent of the local health.

Regarding the possibility of epidemic disease on the
scale of the war, only one of the historic epidemics would
lead to a great death of the human race - that is the "Black"
influenza which swept through the world at the close of the
last war in 1918-19. It is estimated that in this alone
more than ten million people died, and leaving behind many
disabled people as the result of epidemic disease and
control.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS and VITAL STATISTICS.

		<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>
Area of the Districts ...		1,550 Acres	42,459 acres
Population ...		5,263	10,340
Total Live Births ...		80	168
Illegitimate Births ...		6	8
Total Stillbirths ...		2	11
Illegitimate Stillbirths ...		1	2

Live Birth Rate per 1000 of Population:-

<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Monmouthshire</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
15.2	16.2	16.7	14.2

Stillbirth Rate per 1000 of Population:-

<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Monmouthshire</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
.38	1.1	.74	.51

Total Deaths:	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>
	57	113

Death Rates per 1000 of population:-

<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Monmouthshire</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
10.8	10.9	12.11	12.9

Deaths of Infants under One year of life:-

	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>
Total	4	17
Illegitimate	1	2

Infant Mortality Rates per 1000 live births:-

<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>Monmouthshire</u>	<u>England & Wales</u>
50	101	70.48	59

Maternal Mortality - both Districts - NIL.

There were no deaths of children under two years from Diarrhoea.

Among causes of death were:

	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>
Whooping Cough	0	2
Diphtheria	1	0
Tuberculosis	2	2
Influenza	0	1
Bronchitis	4	7

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

Area of the District	Urban	Rural
Population	1,885 Acres	12,450 Acres
Total Live Births	5,885	10,540
Infant Mortality Rate	80	120
Infant Mortality Rate	8	8
Total Stillbirths	2	11
Infant Mortality Rate	1	2

Rate Birth Rate per 1000 of Population

Urban	Rural	Non-metropolitan	England & Wales
14.2	10.2	12.7	12.8

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 of Population

Urban	Rural	Non-metropolitan	England & Wales
1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1

Total Deaths	Urban	Rural
87	112	112

Death Rate per 1000 of Population

Urban	Rural	Non-metropolitan	England & Wales
10.2	10.2	12.7	12.8

Number of Infants under One Year of Age

Urban	Rural
1	17
1	8

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births

Urban	Rural	Non-metropolitan	England & Wales
10.2	10.2	12.7	12.8

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births

There were no deaths of children under two years from

Among causes of death were:

Urban	Rural
1	8
1	8
1	8
1	8
1	8

Whooping Cough
Diphtheria
Tuberculosis
Influenza
Bronchitis

	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>
Pneumonia	2	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2
Appendicitis	1	1
Cancer	8	16
Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels	27	51

This last cause of death includes most of the "old age" deaths, and so is not quite the menace it might suggest.

Babies stillborn, or dying during the first year, were:-

	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>
	6	28
and Total Births (live and still)	82	179

which represents a loss of infant life per 1000 births of all kinds, of 73.17 in the Urban District and 156.4 in the Rural. If the high Rural rate repeats next year it should suggest a review of the individual causes.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

URBAN

Sanitary circumstances of the Area.

Water Sampling.

One chemical and four Bacteriological samples of Water were taken during the year for Analysis and all were found to be satisfactory.

Sewers and Sewage Disposal.

214 Yards of 9" and 12" main Sewer was relaid on Hardwick Hill by Direct Labour under difficult circumstances at a cost of £900 app. Modern traffic conditions have disclosed that the Sewers down the said Hill were laid at too shallow a depth and further trouble may develop.

Petrol interceptor and grease trap were installed by a large Bus Garage during the year.

Disused Sewers at Bulwark Camp have been re-opened, cleansed and put in working order.

Closet Accommodation.

Two Conveniences at Priory (Council property) not now in use have been demolished and drains sealed off.

Accommodation in this respect improved at three shops.

Cesspools abolished at two properties at St. Lawrence Road, and houses connected to Sewer.

Urban	Rural	Total
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200

The last cases of smallpox in the United States were reported in 1949, and the disease has since been eradicated. The last case of smallpox in the United States was reported in 1949, and the disease has since been eradicated.

Urban	Rural	Total
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200
100	100	200

which represents a loss of income for the United States. The loss of income for the United States is estimated at \$100 million per year. The loss of income for the United States is estimated at \$100 million per year.

REPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Urgent attention is required for the following reasons: The Ministry of Health is required to report on the progress of the work done during the year 1949.

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House Refuse Collection and Disposal.

During August 1941 Council acquired its own Two-ton Lorry and disposed of the Horse and Cart and hired haulage. It is hoped that, subject to Wartime difficulties, the costs will compare favourably and efficiency be improved. It only remains now to provide a Cover for the Lorry. The carrying of refuse and garbage through the streets in an open Lorry is a nuisance and not conducive to the Public Health. Some statistics are appended as was done last year. The average load weight is impossible to ascertain under present conditions owing to the large amount of Salvage collected in bulky but light quantities. The aggregate expenditure is also made up of hired haulage and is not a "normal" year for that reason.

Salvage Collected and Disposed of.

46 tons 10 cwts. 1 qtr. PAPER	...	£187. 8. 0.
2 tons 4 cwts. 3 qtrs. RAGS & SACKING		11. 15. 3.
8 tons 8 cwts. 3 qtrs. 12 lbs. SCRAP METAL		14. 16. 6.
7 cwts. 14 lbs. BONES	...	14. 3.
13 dozen Jars and Bottles	...	6. 6.
		<u>£215. 0. 6.</u>

Schools.

Satisfactory Sanitary conditions generally, nothing calling for special mention, except that in cases where Automatic tanks to Urinals are not installed, the matter should be looked into after the War.

Inspections made during the Year.

Interviews with Owners or Agents	...	19
To complaints or defects	...	83
Revisits to premises under notice	...	153
To Refuse Dumps, Public Conveniences, Cattle Mart		18
Water Sampling	...	5
Shops and Foodstores	...	7
Re plans and building Byelaws	...	8
Disinfections and Infectious Diseases	...	17
Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919	...	6
Verminous premises	...	1
Factories and Workshops	...	1
		<u>318</u>

Work Done.

Plans for alteration of Barn at Bulwark into Club were rejected under the Building Byelaws. The Proposer was prosecuted successfully on two occasions by the Council for non-submission of plans and non-compliance with the Bye-laws. Premises are now used as Stores.

A.R.P. Work Done.

One Surface Shelter
One Communal Basement Shelter
Two Public Basement Shelters
One A.R.P. Mortuary.

Source: National Commission on the Status of Women

During the past few years, the two major issues have been the issue of child care and the issue of equal pay for equal work. The issue of child care has been particularly important because it is a prerequisite for women's full participation in the labor force. The issue of equal pay for equal work has been important because it is a prerequisite for women's economic independence. Both issues have been the subject of extensive research and discussion. The National Commission on the Status of Women has been instrumental in bringing these issues to the attention of the public and the government. The Commission has held numerous hearings and has published several reports on these issues. The Commission's work has been instrumental in the passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and the Child Care Development Act of 1971.

Source: National Commission on the Status of Women

1. Child care	2. Equal pay for equal work
3. Discrimination against women	4. Maternity leave
5. Violence against women	6. Sexual harassment
7. Pregnancy discrimination	8. Unemployment benefits
9. Health care	10. Social security
11. Education	12. Transportation
13. Housing	14. Food and nutrition
15. Recreation	16. Arts and culture
17. Religion	18. Family issues
19. Aging	20. Disability

Source: National Commission on the Status of Women

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Work Done by Owners after Informal Notice.

Sanitary Conveniences and/or Drainage Repairs	...	26
W.C's demolished (disused property)	...	2
Cesspools abolished and connections to Sewer	...	2
Additional Sanitary Conveniences at Hotels	...	1
New drainage, plumbing, vent shafts, etc. at Hotels	...	1
Demolitions (part of building, non-compliance with Byelaws)	...	1
Petrol Interceptor and Grease Trap provided	...	1
Roofs repaired	...	6
Water supplies restored	...	1
Dampness remedied or ameliorated	...	1
Cooking facilities restored or repaired	...	1
Sanitary Conveniences at Schools repaired	...	1
Yard floors repaired	...	4
Offensive accumulations removed	...	1
Dangerous structures repaired or made safe	...	2
Windows repaired	...	1

By Owners after Informal Notice, Foods and Drugs & Shops Acts

Washing Accommodation provided for Employees	...	1
Sanitary Conveniences provided for employees	...	1
Preserved Foods Room renovated and improved	...	1

By Owners after Statutory Notice, Shops Acts.

Sanitary Conveniences provided for Employees	...	2
Washing Facilities provided for Employees	...	1

By Owners after Statutory Notice, Public Health Acts.

Drainage Repairs	...	1
------------------	-----	---

Number of Notices served.

Informal under Public Health Acts	...	45
Statutory Notices under Public Health Acts	...	1
Statutory Notices under Shops Acts	...	2

No house to house inspections carried out during the year.

Shops.

Shops' Inspector deals with hours of closing and refers all relevant defects to the Sanitary Inspector. It will be observed from the statistics given above that, in spite of the War, small improvements were brought about.

Eradication of Bugs.

No complaints received during the year, but one Council house vacated was found to be in a bad state and was fumigated with sulphur candles.

Rats and Mice Destruction Acts.

The Council employees destroyed the following by trapping during the year:-

Cattle Mart	...	9
Public Hall	...	1
Refuse Dumps	...	233

The Council regularly attends to its own premises, but the same cannot be said of the Town generally. During the year the following were dealt with at our property and destroyed:-

Cattle Mart	...	9
Public Hall	...	1
Refuse Dumps	...	233

SECTION D. HOUSING.

Council Houses Repairs A/c Year ended 31st March 1942.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Brt.Fwd.</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Expended</u>	<u>Balce.</u>	<u>No.of Houses</u>	<u>Cost per House</u>
1941	£1322.7.3.	£427.17.-	£1750.4.3.	£62.4.4.	£1687.19.11.	74.	16/9

Statistics.

1. Inspections of Dwellinghouses during the year.

- 1a. Total Number Dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under P.H.Acts or Housing Acts... 29
- b. Number of Inspections made for purpose ... 57
- 2a. Number of Dwellinghouses (included under sub-heading above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regs. 1925 ... N11
- b. Number of Inspections made for purpose ... N11
- 3. Number of Dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 1.
- 4. Number of Dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 28

2. Remedy of Defects during year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the L.A. or their officers, 25

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

- A. Proceedings under Secs.9,10 & 16 Housing Act, 1936, N11
- B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts ... N11
- C. Proceedings under Secs.11 & 13, Housing Act, 1936 N11

4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV, Overcrowding.

In common with many other areas the War has rendered the control of Overcrowding impossible and no statistics are available.

SECTION E. FOODS.

Milk. Last year's remarks under this head still apply.

Meat and other Foods. Here also the position remains as reported last year.

The General Assembly is to be held in the year 1945. The following are the names of the members of the Assembly for the year 1945.

Assembly members for the year 1945:

Assembly members for the year 1945:

Assembly members for the year 1945:

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Assembly members for the year 1945:

Assembly members for the year 1945:

Foods Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption.

Halibut	...	...	21 lbs. (decomposed)
Cereals	...	...	2 lbs. (rats)
Tinned Steak	...	...	52 lbs. (Blown)
Tinned Tomatoes	...	...	20 lbs. (do)
Tinned Peas	...	...	12 lbs. (do)
Tinned Herrings	...	...	4½ lbs. (do)
Bacon	...	...	30 lbs. (decomposed)

Meat is imported from a Collecting Centre and no condemnations are recorded.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Chepstow Market.

Number of Markets and Special Markets held ... 27

Admitted thereto:	Sheep	...	12,762
	Pigs	...	2,414
	Calves	...	1,261
	Cattle	...	1,441
	Carts	...	<u>1,123</u>
			<u>19,001.</u>

RURAL.

SANITARY OFFICERS' REPORT ON THE INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Dairies and Cowsheds	- visited	...	...	20
"	- repaired	...	...	5
New W.C's provided	...	...	...	4
Visits re Drainage Work	...	...	...	266
Visits re Water Meters	...	...	...
Visits re Water Supply	...	...	...	179
Visits re Housing	...	...	...	200
Houses repaired	...	...	...	14
New Buildings erected	...	...	...	7
Plans approved	...	...	...	6
Visits to Factories	...	...	...	8
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	10
Informal Notices	...	...	...	17
Inspections for Vermin	...	...	...	2
Disinfections	...	...	...	18
Visits to Caldicot Moors re burying of carcasses				
washed up by the tide	...	...	...	9
Drains repaired	...	...	...	12
Schools (visits)	...	...	...	4
Shops (visits)	...	...	...	11
Nuisances abated by Informal Action	...	...	...	4
Nuisances abated by Formal Action	...	...	...	2
Quantity of Meat condemned	...	...	...	252 lbs.
Visits re Air Raid Shelters	...	...	...	149
Visits re Fire Brigade	...	...	...	144
Visits re War Damage	...	...	...	38
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	618
Water Supplies improved	...	...	...	2

FACTORIES WITH AND WITHOUT POWER.

Under the Factories Act, 1937, the following Table shows the work done:-

1. Inspection of Factories, including inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors.

		Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories with Power	...	5	N11	N11
Factories without Mechanical Power	...	3	N11	N11
Total		8	N11	N11

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

PARTICULARS	No. of Defects			Number of offences in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<u>NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.</u>				
Want of Cleanliness				
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of floors.				
Other nuisances				
<u>SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.</u>				
Insufficient	1	1		
Unsuitable or defective				
Not separate for sexes				
Total	1	1	N11	N11

FACTORIES WITH NO OTHER TOWN

Under the Factory Act, 1901, the following Table shows the work done.

1. Inspection of Factories, including inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Year	Factories with Town	Factories without Town	Total
1901	111	111	222
1902	111	111	222
1903	111	111	222
1904	111	111	222

WORKS DONE IN FACTORIES

Year	Factories with Town	Factories without Town	Total
1901	111	111	222
1902	111	111	222
1903	111	111	222
1904	111	111	222
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1999	111	111	222
2000	111	111	222

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspections of Dwelling Houses during the Year:-

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1)(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts | 87 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 200 |
| (2)(a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | Nil |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... | 17 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	10
--	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 6 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices | |
| (a) By owners | 4 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices | Nil |

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... | Nil |

REPORTING OFFICER

1. Description of building, location, and use

(a) Total number of dwelling units: _____
The building is used for _____
located on _____

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose: _____

(c) Number of dwelling units (including mobile home units) which were inspected: _____
and recorded under this reporting system: _____
dated _____

(d) Number of inspections made for the purpose: _____

(e) Number of dwelling units found to be in a state of emergency or in need of repair: _____
as to the building: _____

(f) Number of dwelling units found to be in a state of emergency or in need of repair: _____
as to the building: _____

2. Summary of defects found and their estimated cost

Number of defective dwelling units: _____
is estimated to be _____
estimated at _____

3. Action taken to correct defects during the year

(a) Proceedings under Section 11, 12 and 13 of the Housing Act: _____

(b) Number of dwelling units in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs: _____

(c) Number of dwelling units in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs: _____

(d) By local authority in respect of repairs: _____

4. Proceedings under Public Health Act

(a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs: _____

(b) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs: _____

5. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act

(a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs: _____

(b) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs: _____

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV. Overcrowding.

Owing to Evacuation and the construction of the Royal Naval Propellant Factory at Dinham, new cases of overcrowding have occurred. The precise figures are not available.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Detailed List of Meat Condemned during the
Year 1941.

Centralised slaughtering continues, the meat for this District being killed and inspected at Newport Abattoir.

The distribution centre for the District is in Caldicot where frequent visits have been made and most of the carcasses have been inspected.

Transport conditions have improved somewhat and an efficient Refrigerator has been installed and is in use at the Caldicot Distribution Centre.

The carcass of Mutton referred to in the following Table was that of a Sheep slaughtered by the owner as an emergency measure; no attempt at dressing the carcass was made.

The Bacon referred to had been delayed on rail and was unfit for food at the time of delivery to a store in this District.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Condition or Disease</u>	<u>Weight Lbs.</u>	<u>Disposal</u>
10 Sheeps' Plucks	Decomposition	58	Buried
1 Carcase of Mutton	Decomposition	132	Buried
Bacon	Decomposition	24	Buried
Leg of Lamb Joint Abscesses		<u>7½</u>	Buried
		<u>221½ lbs.</u>	

In addition to Butchers' Meat the following have been condemned as unfit for human food and destroyed:-

28 - 1 lb. size Tins of Stewed Steak (blown tins)

MISCELLANEA.

Treatment of Foodstuffs Contaminated by Gas.

A Food Treatment Squad consisting of 18 members (12 men and 6 ladies) has been formed and trained. In order to cover the district to the best advantage the personnel have been split into two independent groups, the smaller one with 5 members is at Tintern and the larger group will work from Caldicot where there is a store for protective clothing and other equipment.

The Cattle Market at Rogiet will be used as Decontamination Site and it has been inspected and approved by the Divisional Gas Liaison Officer.

For transport purposes a Lorry owned by Messrs.C.H.Ward, Larkfield Garage, Chepstow, has been earmarked.

Arrangements for the analysis of suspected or contaminated foodstuffs have been made with the County Analyst, and in case of emergency, two substitutes have been appointed.

Deliveries of protective clothing and other equipment have been slow, but the position in this respect is now improving and the Food Treatment Squads should be in a position to deal effectively with any emergency.

War Damage Repairs.

The party of local Builders organised for this purpose have done their work satisfactorily. After each "raid" they have been on the spot immediately, and carried out "first aid" repairs quickly and well.

Salvage.

The quantity of wanted materials is steadily increasing, and the collections are being done systematically throughout the district. A Survey of Unwanted Railings has been made, and a Report has been sent to the appropriate Authority that about 2,500 yards are available.

Caldicot & Rogiet Outfall Sewer (Dowle's Drain).

This has been cleaned from the Railway to the Severn. The next job to be tackled will be the Culvert which runs under the Railway lines.

British Restaurant at Caldicot.

The reconstruction and equipment of the Parish Hall for this purpose is well under way (December, 1941).

Emergency Water Supplies.

Arrangements have been made whereby, in case of a blitz damaging mains, houses in the Severn Tunnel Area can be supplied from the G.W.R. source; and alternatively, if the G.W.R. mains are damaged, the Company's requirements can be provided from the Council's mains. A stock of different sized pipes and fittings has been obtained for doing repairs if they become necessary.

MEMORANDUM

Transmittal of Postoffice Inspectors' Report

A Postoffice Inspectors' Report, consisting of 12 pages, is being transmitted herewith. The report was prepared by the Postoffice Inspectors, who were assigned to the duty of inspecting the Postoffice at Chicago, Illinois, on the 1st day of January, 1911. The report contains a detailed description of the Postoffice, its location, its history, and its present condition. It also contains a list of the Postoffice's assets and liabilities, and a statement of the Postoffice's income and expenses for the year 1910.

The Postoffice Inspectors' Report will be used by the Postoffice Inspectors to determine the Postoffice's needs for the year 1911. It will also be used by the Postoffice Inspectors to determine the Postoffice's needs for the year 1912.

For a complete description of the Postoffice, see the Postoffice Inspectors' Report, which is being transmitted herewith.

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Postoffice Inspectors' Report (Continued)

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Penterry Water Supplies.

The houses in this small Hamlet have long been without a reliable water supply; This year water from two sources has been piped to storage tanks, and a considerable improvement effected.

Undy Water Supply.

In consequence of the widening of the Railway, the water main has had to be diverted for a length of about 75 yards. This work has been done by the Council's employees for the G.W.R. Co.

MILK DAIRIES & COWSHEDS.

General Considerations.

Milk is as it always has been, a basic human food; indeed it is unique in its indispensability - the first food in more senses than one. The small quantity consumed per head in Britain before the war (estimated at 1/3 of a pint) was a matter of concern and led the Government to introduce and subsidise schemes for its provision free or at small cost to school children and mothers. Milk supplies most essential food elements, but most important, it is rich in first class protein, so necessary for sound growth and development, and shown to be seriously deficient in the diets of a large proportion of children. It was generally accepted that the addition of an extra pint of milk per day to such defective or border line diets would bring them up to something like ideal standards. The war has served but to increase the importance of milk. The alternative sources of animal fat and protein are eggs and meat. Much feeding stuffs, largely imported, go to the production of these foods, but "the milk cow is the most efficient transformer. She produces about 1 lb. of human food for 5 lbs. of feeding stuffs both recovered as dry matter; the pig needs about 8 lbs, the hen about 15, and beef cattle about 20 to produce 1 lb." (Sir John Boyd Orr). The consumption of milk per head is now double that pre war.

Milk is largely consumed raw, and nutritionally is at its best that way. It has, however, two serious drawbacks. Firstly, it may contain the germs of certain diseases, and, secondly, unless produced under the cleanest conditions and intelligently handled, it will be so contaminated as to seriously affect its keeping qualities - it rapidly "goes sour". These constitute problems which concern your Councils.

Taking them separately. Diseases conveyed by Milk. These are chiefly Tuberculosis, Undulant Fever, Epidemic Sore Throat and certain forms of Enteritis. Of these Tuberculosis is by far the most important. This disease is very common amongst Milk Cows, and it is estimated that the milk of one Cow in 500 contains Tubercule. Herds of tested cattle give what is marketed as "tuberculin tested milk" and, apart from dishonesty on the part of the seller, afford a large measure of, but not absolute, safety. Another "designated" milk, "pasteurised milk" is safer.

Here by means of an elaborate plant the Milk is heated to a certain temperature and held at it for a definite time. It represents the least exposure to heat necessary to kill Tubercule germs, and it causes no serious deterioration in the qualities of the Milk.

"Safety is the really important consideration, and in present circumstances the ordinary raw Milk supply can never be regarded as safe. To ensure its freedom from disease causing organisms suitable treatment such as that afforded by efficient pasteurisation is essential".
(Annual Report, Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health).

A Government measure, entitled the Milk Industry Bill, introduced in 1938, included a provision enabling Local Authorities to apply for an Order making compulsory the efficient pasteurisation of all Milk sold by retail in their areas other than that from Tuberculin tested herds. Its enactment was postponed. Most of the Milk supplied in the large cities is pasteurised; none is on sale in the Chepstow Districts.

The other aspect of Milk Production, that affecting its keeping qualities and cleanliness, is likely to be improved a good deal by a new scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture. It may first be explained that Milk before it is drawn from the Cow is germ-free and very faintly acid. Under any circumstances numbers of microscopic life we call bacteria or germs find access to it from utensils, air, etc. But Milk drawn under unsatisfactory conditions as regards cleanliness of methods and utensils is highly contaminated with such organisms. Such germs do not necessarily, or indeed often, set up illness in humans. They multiply in Milk, which is an ideal culture medium for them, and one effect of their growth is the production of lactic acid from lactose or milk sugar. When the acidity reaches .4% a sour taste may be detected and at .7% the milk curdles. This process will be brought about no matter how clean the production, but its rate depends (A) on the original contamination and (B) on the Milk temperature; on a hot summer day the rate of multiplication is maximum and hence the difficulty in hot weather with Milk souring. That is why Milk is passed over coolers as soon as drawn and why those fortunate people who own Refrigerators can keep Milk near the freezing point and therefore fresh for many days, even in the most thundery weather. People in such weather often scald Milk, which means, roughly, boiling it. This sterilises it, that is, it kills all organisms and so brings the souring processes to an end. But boiled milk is considerably altered and loses its palatability and nutritional value. In the common form of pasteuration, Milk is held at a temperature of 150.F. for half-an-hour and then rapidly cooled; in another method it is held at a temperature of 162.F. for 16 Seconds. Boiling point is 212.F.

To return now to the new National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme. Laboratories are being provided in all districts, wherever possible by the Milk trade; these will be licensed by the Minister of Agriculture, and certain standard tests will be carried out by approved

certified testers under the control of the Provincial Dairy Bacteriologist, who may arrange for frequent check tests to be made by his own staff. The standard test is known as the RESAZURIN TEST or 10 Minute Platform (Rejection) Test. It indicates in a quantitative way the acidity of the Milk, that is, how near the critical .4% mentioned above, the sample is. Depending on the result the Milk is classed in one of three categories, market, salvage or rejection. The last is returned to the owner, the first is satisfactory and fit for retail distribution. Salvage milk will be at the disposal of the Ministry of Food who will whenever practicable arrange for its salvage manufacture or disposal. It will be appreciated that Milk near the turning point, apart from it being bad buying for the local retail purchaser, is likely to taint the bulk milk sent to the cities in the great rail or road tanks. The scheme provides for advisory visits to be made to Farms which have been getting unsatisfactory results. At first the scheme will be applied mainly to depots where Milk is bulked for distant markets, but all supplies of Milk delivered from farms will be liable to be submitted for test. A laboratory has been set up at the C.W.S. Depot, Chepstow Urban District.

Duties of the District Councils.

It will be readily understood from the foregoing that this scheme is going to supply a very sensitive indicator of the standard of Milk production of the registered dairies and Dairymen, and this is very much the concern of the Councils. The Milk and Dairies Order 1926 lays down pretty adequately the conditions and methods necessary in satisfactory Milk production and its enforcement is the duty of the District Councils. It covers such matters as the construction, ventilation and lighting of Cowsheds, the provision of water supply, the ritual to be observed by the Milker, washing and drying of hands, udders, etc., the sterilisation of utensils and the cooling and subsequent disposal of the Milk. Much depends on the worker having the right idea of cleanliness. "That Milk can be produced in a thoroughly clean manner and at little extra cost to the Farmer can be seen by reference to an article by Anderson and Meanwell in the 'Medical Officer', April 2nd 1933. In the experiment there quoted excellent results were achieved by ordinary farmers in a small way of business who attended to the following points, cleaning of udders, clean dry hands in the case of milkers, discarding the first jet of milk, and sterilisation of all utensils by steaming in a simple wooden box fitted over the farm copper."

Talking of laboratory methods in relation to Milk, Sir William Savage writes, "Nearly forty years practical experience has shown me that the best way, apart from general bacterial standards for milk, to improve the bacterial quality of the Milk supply is a persistent drive against the worst producers until they either become producers of decent quality milk or go out of business. The laboratory is invaluable in the compilation of this Black List." I have dealt with this question of Milk production at considerable length because of its

peculiar present importance and because of the decidedly unfavourable impression made on the representative of the Provincial Dairy Bacteriologist by Milks tested locally. It should be added that many of the worst supplies were from areas outside these Districts. The adulteration of Milk is the concern of the Food and Drugs authority - the County Council.

Recommendations.

The Councils should do everything possible to raise the standard of Milk production. Their Sanitary Officers might arrange for some time to come to make more frequent farm inspections, concentrating on those getting poor laboratory results. Advice, suggestions and encouragement would go a long way. The Inspector would also take note of any apparent illness in animals and especially such signs as would suggest tuberculosis, chronic cough, emaciation, and swellings anywhere, and in a suspicious case the Veterinary Inspector should be advised. There is the question of finding time for these inspections; to be properly done in the Rural District they will take up a good deal of time - for instance only a visit at milking time would in many cases reveal a defect in methods. The following and similar communications from the Welsh Board of Health touch on these difficulties:-

"I should like to draw your attention to the fact that reports indicate that, in some areas, the production of milk is not being carried out under such good sanitary conditions as before the War. Various difficulties may have contributed to this, e.g. the recruitment of trained milkers and transport difficulties, but it is all the more desirable that the routine visits of Sanitary Inspectors to Farms, Cow-sheds, etc. should be carried out at least as frequently as before the War, and the valuable educative work done by these Inspectors in such matters as instructing inexperienced milkers on the sterilization of utensils and the cooling of milk must not be reduced.

With a view to making a general assessment of the quality and quantity of the supervision of milk production now being made by Local Authorities, I am to ask you to be good enough to inform me whether routine inspections are being carried out in your district. If not, arrangements should be made for such visits as frequently as is thought necessary and if, for various reasons, a Sanitary Inspector has insufficient time available for this work I should be glad to hear the reasons."

And again:-

"County War Agricultural Executive Committees have been requested to seek the co-operation of Local Authorities in connection with the Milk Testing Scheme, and the Department are sure the Authorities may be relied upon for their goodwill and assistance. It is suggested that Authorities may also find it useful on occasions to consult with these Committees where there is difficulty in compliance with the Milk and Dairies Order 1926, especially in the case of producers who have not hitherto produced Milk for the liquid milk market."

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases have been notified during the year:-

		<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>
Scarlet Fever	...	4	5
Whooping Cough	...	26	22
Diphtheria	...	2	5
Measles	...	74	229
Primary Pneumonia	...	3	4

It must be realized that notifications of such diseases as Whooping Cough, Measles and especially Pneumonia are very incomplete and have value chiefly in comparing the relative prevalence in different parts of the country.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

As reported last year, over 80% of the School children are immunised, and both Councils have approved steps to extend this valuable preventive measure as far as possible to children of pre-school age. Altogether in this important matter the position is excellent.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Tuberculosis increased during the last war, and as there are indications that the same thing is happening again, it might be as well to review fairly fully the position as it presents itself to District Councils.

General Considerations.

Tuberculosis notifications and deaths in Great Britain have been declining steadily for many years. For example, deaths in the year 1900 numbered 61,663 and in 1937, 28,529, less than half. Complacency, however, is hardly justified, as the evidence strongly suggests that we as a community have long had the knowledge and resources which, fully availed of, would have reduced these figures to vanishing point.

Apart from deaths, Tuberculosis is responsible for much chronic invalidism; thus in 1937 there were notified 50,689 new cases. Of such a number a considerable proportion will recover fully, but all too many will live impaired and precarious lives, haunted it may be by fear of relapse which is so often justified by the event, heavily handicapped in the matter of employment, and a real or potential danger to those about them.

Children are not born with Tuberculosis; they become infected with it, practically all of them in their growing years. Only a small number of the total infected ever develop the disease in an active form, the rest overcome the Tuberculosis germs that come their way. But there is

no individual absolutely immune to Tuberculosis; if the dose of infection is heavy enough the natural resistance breaks down and Tuberculosis follows. That is the real meaning of the common belief that Tuberculosis occurs in this or that family. A family with an infectious case of Tuberculosis amongst its members is at special risk. If that family is poorly housed or overcrowded, or if through poverty or ignorance the standard of nutrition is poor and its general level of cleanliness and hygiene low, then the risk to its members is enormous, whereas if all these environmental factors are in its favour the risk is correspondingly slight. But nothing can cause Tuberculosis except an adequate dose of Tuberculosis germs, and such a dose is derived from either the sputum of a human case or the milk of a Tuberculous Cow.

In a more ideal world we may suppose infectious human cases would all be isolated, the very ill in hospitals and the chronic cases in sheltered communities like Papworth Village Settlement. Tuberculous cattle would be eliminated from the herds and milk made safe by Pasteurisation. Instead, isolation as practised is little more than a token thing, and 7 or 8 per cent of ordinary milk samples are found to contain Tubercule.

DUTIES OF DISTRICT COUNCILS.

1. Notification of Tuberculosis.

Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 1930, the District M.O.H. must send to the County M.O.H. at the end of every week a statement of every notification received by him during the week, and at the end of every quarter a Form summarising the changes in his Register during the quarter. This Register of Cases must be frequently revised, all new cases occurring or coming to reside in the district being entered, and cases which have recovered or died or left the district, deleted. In this last event the M.O.H. of the new place of residence must be notified. These requirements are carried out.

2. Tuberculosis Case & Contacts.

The MoO.H. or an Officer instructed by him, must investigate every case notified "to make such enquiries and take such steps as are necessary or desirable for investigating the source of infection for preventing the spread of infection and for removing conditions favourable to infection". The Regulations further empower the Local Authority (i.e. here the District Councils) "to supply all such medical or other assistance and all such facilities and articles as may reasonably be required for the detection of Tuberculosis and for preventing the spread of infection" and for that purpose "to appoint such Officers, do such acts and make such arrangements as may be necessary". In practise the Officers of the Welsh National Memorial Association, who are responsible for the treatment and after care, investigate the condition of contacts and keep any suspicious cases under observation; they also instruct the Patient how to dispose of his sputum

and generally diminish the risk to his family. The District Council would be expected to provide satisfactory housing conditions for a Tuberculous case and generally support any suggestion made to them by the Officers of the Association. Infectious cases must not engage in the handling of food, especially Milk. Disinfection of premises vacated by a Tuberculous person is also a duty of the Councils.

3. Tuberculosis and Milk.

The Councils are responsible for the registration of Cow keepers and Dairymen and of Dairies, and the enforcement of the general requirements as to structure and cleanliness of Cowsheds and Dairies, methods of milking, cleansing of utensils, protection of Milk against contamination both at the farm and in the course of distribution and all other related matters.

Milk Cows are very susceptible to Tuberculosis, and, as in the case of humans, spread is favoured by dark airless and insanitary Cowsheds, but here again it must be emphasised that it is the infectious animal that is the essential factor, and the discovery and removal of such animals, were it practicable, would be the really important contribution to the problem. Clean milk production has in itself no important bearing on safety from Tuberculosis. Sampling of milk for Tuberculosis is carried out by the County Council, and Tuberculosis brought to light in this, as indeed in any other way, is reported to a Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, whose duty it becomes to trace the responsible animal and have her destroyed. It may be said at once that these provisions for dealing with the danger of Milk borne Tuberculosis are largely useless, and what actually transpires under them in these Districts we are not informed. It may be added, however, that in figures published in the Report of the Welsh Tuberculosis Committee of 1938, Monmouthshire showed a higher proportion of cattle slaughtered for Tuberculosis than most Welsh Counties.

Special disinfection of Cowsheds after Tuberculosis is strongly recommended and we must assume that it is carried out by the County, although as the responsibility is not clear, it would be as well to enquire further:

Pasteurisation, which makes even an infected Milk safe, is not carried out in the Chepstow Districts.

RECOMMENDATIONS. Disinfection after Tuberculosis.

The procedure laid down below should be adopted as standard. Not all cases of Tuberculosis call for disinfection; for instance non-pulmonary cases without an external discharge cannot contaminate a house. Nor as a general rule need all the rooms be done with equal thoroughness. Then again, a short visit of a case taking precautions against spread of infection does not call for any special measures. Otherwise:-

1. All mattresses, sheets, etc. should be disinfected by steam in a steam disinfector. If this is not possible, all washable articles such as pillow cases, sheets, etc. should

be well soaked in a 1% solution of Izal, Kerol or Cyllin, or preferably boiled and washed.

2. Blankets sprayed with the Disinfectant and washed. They must be very thoroughly dried.

3. The walls and floor should be sprayed with the same disinfectant, but in a strength of 1 in 50 (i.e. about 3 ounces per gallon). The walls should be thoroughly wetted and, after disinfection, repapered or limewashed.

4. Articles of furniture etc. should be wiped over with cloths soaked in the disinfectant and then well dried. The spraying may be done with a special portable apparatus sold for the purpose or, fairly satisfactorily, with a powerful garden sprayer.

Tuberculosis in Cattle.

The County Council might be invited to inform the District Councils quarterly what action its Officers have taken in their areas, whether Milk has been sampled for Tuberculosis, or any Tuberculous animals slaughtered. Also the question above regarding the disinfection of Cowsheds. And the advisability of substituting dried for liquid Milk in Schools.

Cases on the Tuberculosis Register:-

Urban - Total 18. Males 12. Females 6.

Rural - Total 42. Males 22. Females 20.

New Cases and Mortality during 1941:-

Urban 4. Rural 6. Mortality Urban 2. Rural 2.

Age Period	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -								
1 -				1				
5 -				1			1	
15 -								
25 -	1							
35 -	1							
45 -					1			
55 -								
65 on								
<u>RURAL</u>								
0 -								
1 -								
5 -								
15 -		3				1		
25 -		2						
35 -								
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Dr.A.Carveth Johnson is Tuberculosis Officer and Dr.J.T. Jones Assistant Tuberculosis Officer to our Districts. They have both, and I may add Miss Richards their Secretary also, been most helpful to the Councils and painstaking and kind to Patients referred to them. It is gratifying to learn from Dr.Carveth Johnson that he regards our Districts rather as bright spots in relation to Tuberculosis.

I wish in conclusion to acknowledge my indebtedness to your Clerks, Sanitary Inspectors and A.R.P. Director for much assistance throughout the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.J.O'REILLY.

