#### [Report 1962] / Medical Officer of Health, Chepstow U.D.C.

#### **Contributors**

Chepstow (Wales). Urban District Council.

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#### CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1962.

GATE HOUSE, CHEPSTOW, MON.

TEL. NO. 2657.

#### CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman

Mrs. Councillor E.F. Hewetson J.P.

Vice-Chairman

Mr. Councillor S.G. Penney

#### COUNCILLORS.

Mr. W.A. Bevan. Mrs. A.M. Palmer.

Mr. A.J. James. Mr. W.J. Penney.

Mr. W.G. James. Mr. P.H. Price.

Mr. G.T. Meddins. Mr. R.W. Reece.

Mr. C.E.A. Morgan.

Mr. H.L. Warren.

Mr. A.T.B. O'Neill, J.P.

Mr. A.L. Watkins.

Mr. I. Williams.

# OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

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Clerk and Chief Financial Officer Mr. A. Gill.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

Mr. E.M. Taylor.

Additional Public Health Inspector

Mr. D.J. Turner.

Rating Officer and Collector

Mr. W.A. Hood.

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. E.N. Dowell.

#### CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gate House,

CHEPSTOW, Mon.

October. 1962.

To:- The Chairman and Members of the Chepstow Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of your District for the year ended 31st. December. 1962.

The health of the district continues to be satisfactory.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Taylor and Mr. Turner for their help and co-operation.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

E.N. Dowell.

Medical Officer of Health.

#### CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT 1962.

#### STATISTICS.

The estimated mid-year population was 7250. In the 1951 Census it was 5283.

The natural increase, i.e. the figure that the number of births exceeds the number of deaths, was 91.

#### BIRTHS.

| Live Births. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Legitimate   | 84     | 82       | 166    |
| Illegitimate | 1      | 6        | 7      |

The highest number of births recorded since 1950 was 122 in 1960 and the lowest was 81 in 1952.

The live birth rate per 1000 of population for Monmouthshire was 17.99.

| Still Births. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---------------|--------|----------|--------|
|               |        |          |        |
| Legitimate    | 2      |          | 2      |

There were no still births in 1958.

#### INFANT MORTALITY.

#### Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

|              | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Legitimate   | 1      | 2        | 3      |
| Illegitimate |        | 2        | 2      |

The following gives a list of the deaths of infants under one year of age, giving age at, and cause of death:-

| (i)  | Male   | 2 days  |    | Hyaline Membrane Disease.  Prematurity - Caesarian Section for foetal distress. |
|------|--------|---------|----|---|
| (ii) | Female | 10 mins | b. | Anoxaemia. Placental Insufficiency. Maternal Toxaemia.                          |

| (iii) | Female | 8 days   | 1a. Staphylococcal Septicaemia.<br>2. Prolonged Labour. |
|-------|--------|----------|---|
| (iv)  | Female | 8 months | Infant Bronchopneumonia.                                |
| (v)   | Female | 16 hours | 1a. Prematurity b. Atelectasis of Lung.                 |

In 1952 there were 5 deaths of infants under one year of age. The infant mortality rate per 1000 live births for Monmouthshire was 25.02.

#### DEATHS.

| Deaths. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---------|--------|----------|--------|
|         | 71     | 55       | 126    |

In 1958 there were 120 deaths registered.

Of the deaths registered in 1962, 45 had died in hospitals in your District, and although they were not residents, had been in hospital for more than six months before the occurrence of death.

For the eleventh consecutive year no deaths were attributed to childbirth.

In 1958 four deaths were attributed to malignant disease of lung.

The death rate per 1000 of population for Monmouthshire was 13.67.

The following table gives a classification of the cause of death and the number attributed to each cause.

# DEATHS IN CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT 1962.

|  | Males. | Females. |
|--|--------|----------|
|  |        |          |
| Other infective and parasitic diseases.  | 1      |          |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach.             | 1      |          |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung.                | 4      | 1        |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast.              |        | 2        |
| Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms. | 6      | 5        |
| Diabetes.                                | 1      |          |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system.      | 7      | 10       |
| Coronary disease, angina.                | 21     | 8        |
| Hypertension with heart disease.         | 2      | 1        |
| Other heart disease.                     | 8      | 4        |
| Other circulatory disease.               | 7      | 7        |
| Influenza.                               | 2      |          |
| Pneumonia.                               | 1      | 1        |
| Bronchitis.                              | 5      | 2        |
| Other diseases of respiratory system ·   |        | 1        |
| Nephritis and nephrosis.                 | 1      |          |
| Hyperplasia of prostate.                 | 1      |          |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases   | 2      | 11       |
| All other accidents                      |        | 2        |
| Suicide.                                 | 1      |          |
|  |        |          |
| All causes                               | 71     | 55       |

### CHEPSTOW URBAN DISTRICT 1962.

#### GENERAL EPIDEMICLOGY.

#### DIPHTHERIA.

For the tenth consecutive year, no case was notified.

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 109 children were immunised against diphtheria, Of the number immunised, 38 were babies born in 1962 and 46 were babies born in 1961.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis in 1962, so it was not necessary to suspend immunisations.

#### VACCINATIONS (Smallpox).

This was the year that smallpox came to South Wales. As a result 3403 primary and 983 re-vaccinations were completed. In 1961 only 89 primary vaccinations were carried out.

One complication of vaccination was reported and that was a case of Acute Encephalitis - post-infectious, occurring in a male, age 35 years.

#### POLICMYELITIS.

As in 1961 there were no cases notified. In the last seven years, only two cases have been notified and they occurred in 1957.

From May 21, the Monmouthshire County Council made arrangements for oral poliomyelitis to be used in their clinics.

# DYSENTERY.

For the third consecutive year, no notifications have been received.

#### FOOD POISONING.

For six years, no cases have been reported.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

The following were the notifications of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis received during the year :-

(i) Female 24 years. Lungs.

(ii) Male 11 years. Lungs.

The Mass Radiography Unit came to Chepstow on May 14th. and remained for a period of three days. During that time 488 people were x-rayed and of that number only 7 were referred to the Chest Physician for further examination.

# PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER. 1962.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

The whole of the district is supplied with a piped water supply. As from the 1st. October. 1960, the Chepstow Water Co., a private Company which had previously supplied water to the Urban District for a long number of years, ceased to operate and was taken over by the newly constituted Board, The Newport and South Monmouthshire Water Board, comprising the County Borough of Newport, Urban Districts of Caerleon, Chepstow and Cwmbran and the Rural Districts of Chepstow and Magor & St. Mellons.

Owing to the rapid development of the Council's housing schemes in the Bulwark area, difficulty had been experienced during dry summers in maintaining an adequate supply. The new Board have already carried out works of ring maining with additional supplies within their area which has considerably improved the situation.

33 samples of water were regularly taken for both chemical and bacteriological examination, the results being satisfactory. The water is not subject to plumbo-solvency.

## SWIMMING & BATHING POOLS.

There are no swimming pools within the area.

#### DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

With the advent of the Spencer Steel Works at Llanwern there has been an ever increasing pressure brought to bear to provide additional land within the Urban District for residential purposes, and with this in mind the Council has embarked upon a £250,000 Sewerage Scheme.

The main provisions of the scheme provide for additional lengths of new sewers to serve new residential areas, the provision of storm water over flow sewers together with rising mains to pump the effluent from the old parts of the town to the new Sewerage Works situated at Thornwell, Bulwark.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Almost the whole of the dwelling houses within the Urban District are provided with waterclosets connected to the Council's sewerage system. A small number of dwellings are drained into cesspools, but as these are situated in the sparsely populated parts of the district, no trouble is experienced.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

At the present time, domestic and trade refuse is collected once weekly from all premises with a more frequent collection for the business premises within the Town Centre.

Disposal is effected by tipping in a large depression adjacent to the Chepstow Racecourse.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT. 1936 Section 60.

HOUSING ACT. 1961 Section 16.

MON. COUNTY COUNCIL ACT. 1956. Section 95.

Regular inspection of all premises coming within the scope of the above mentioned Acts, for the provision of adequate means of escape in case of fire, continued throughout the year. In this respect, I must record my appreciation to the County Chief Fire Officer (Cyril Thomas Esq., C.B.E.) and his Fire Prevention Officers who so readily assist my Department in this connection.

During the year under review, 8 premises were inspected for this purpose, and following upon recommendations made for the carrying out of certain work to provide adequate means of escape in case of fire, 5 premises complied with all of the recommendations made.

The understanding and cooperation of all those people concerned in this important aspect of our work has to be readily appreciated, and it is hoped that within the course of the next year, ALL premises coming within the provisions of the above mentioned Acts will be provided with adequate means of escape in case of fire.

The table below, will indicate the type of premises dealt with.

| NO. |
|-----|
| 1   |
| 1   |
| 1   |
| 2   |
| 1   |
|     |

# HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACT. 1959, (as Amended by the Housing Act. 1961)

Eight applications for Standard Grants were received and approved during the year, the amenities provided and the amount of grant being available varying in each case.

| HOUSING.  | Tempo | rary | Perma              | nent                           |
|---|-------|------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. No. of separate dwellings owned by   | 1961  | 1962 | 1961               | 1962                           |
| Local Authority on the 31. 12. 62.  | -     | -    | 841                | 989                            |
| 2. Total number of new separate dwellings completed during the year   |       |      |                    |                                |
| (a) By Local (b) By Private Enterprise  |       |      | 208<br>46          | 148<br>15                      |
| 3. Improvement Grants.  (a) Number of Standard Improvement Grants (Completed) (b) Number of OTHER Improvement Grants (c) Amount of Standard Improvement Grants (d) Amount of OTHER Improvement Grants |       |      | 13<br>NIL<br>£1149 | 3<br>NIL<br><b>\$3</b> 35<br>= |
| 4. Improvement Loans  (a) Number of Improvement Loans  (b) Amount of Improvement Loans  |       |      | =                  | =                              |
| 5. Rent Act. 1957. Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued   |       |      | 1                  | =                              |

# FOOD & DRUGS ACT. 1955.

Satisfactory co-operation has been achieved with the food traders, and during the year under review, there were complete alterations to several premises, resulting in a higher standard of hygiens being able to be maintained.

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## MILK SUPPLY.

The whole of the milk supplied within the district is imported, all consisting of bottled milk of the designated grades.

Ten samples of milk were abstracted from retailers during the year, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for examination, and in each case satisfied the prescribed test.

# ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS

1959.

# REGISTRATION OF PREMISES.

| Manufacturers | (Cold | Mix) | •••       | ••• | 1  |
|---------------|-------|------|-----------|-----|----|
|               |       |      | u sunasa- |     | 26 |
| Retailers     |       |      | • • •     | ••• | -  |

# FACTORIES ACTS. 1961.

The under-mentioned visits were carried out during the year in connection with the administration of the Factories Acts:-

### PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

|                            | 14. 4. 14. 14. 14. |        |       |         |            |      |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------|---------|------------|------|
|                            | M/c                | Number |       | Number  | of         | M/c  |
|                            | Line               | on     |       | Written | Occupiers  | Line |
|                            | No.                |        | Insn. |         | Prosecuted | No.  |
| (1)                        | (2)                | (3)    | (4)   | (5)     | (6)        | (7)  |
|                            | (2)                | (2)    | (4)   | 10/     | (0)        | 11/  |
|                            |                    |        |       | 1       |            |      |
| (i) Factories in which     |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| Sections, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| are to be enforced by      |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| Local Authorities.         | 1                  | 3      | 3     | _       | _          | 1    |
| noted noted noted.         | 1                  |        |       |         |            |      |
| (ii) Postovice vet         |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| (ii) Factories not         |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| included in (i) in which   |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| Section 7 is enforced by   |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| the Local Authority.       | 2                  | 41     | 31    | -       | -          | 2    |
|                            |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| (iii) Other premises in    |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
|                            |                    |        |       | 1       |            |      |
| which Section 7 is en-     |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| forced by the Local        |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
| Authority (excluding       |                    | 1      |       |         |            |      |
| out-workers' premises)     | 13                 | -      | -     | _       | _          | 3    |
|                            |                    |        |       |         |            |      |
|                            |                    |        | -     |         |            | -    |
| momat .                    |                    | 44     | 71.   |         |            |      |
| TOTAL : -                  |                    | , 44   | 34    | -       | -          | 1    |

# 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more 'cases').

|   | Line |       | of cases i |                           |     | No. cf cases in                      | M/c<br>Line |
|---|------|-------|------------|---------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-------------|
|   | No.  | Found | Remedied   | Refer<br>TO H.M.<br>Insp. |     | which prosecu- tions were instituted | No.         |
| (1)   | (2)  | (3)   | (4)        | (5)                       | (6) | (7)                                  | (8)         |
| Want of cleanliness(S.I.)   | 4    |       |            |                           |     |                                      | 4           |
| Overcrowding (S.2.)   | 5    |       |            |                           |     |                                      | 5           |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)   | 6    |       |            |                           |     |                                      | 6/          |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)   | 7    |       |            |                           |     |                                      | 7           |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)   | 8    |       |            |                           |     |                                      | 8           |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7.) (a) Insufficient   | 9    |       |            | 1                         | 10/ |                                      | 9           |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective   | 10   |       | /          |                           |     |                                      | 10          |
| (c) Not separate for sexes  | 11   |       |            |                           |     |                                      | 11          |
| Other offences against<br>the Act (Not including<br>offences relating to<br>Outwork). | 12   |       |            |                           |     |                                      | 12          |
| TOTAL : -   |      |       |            |                           |     |                                      |             |

# NOTICES SERVED.

| Preliminary Notices served                         | 12   |
|--|------|
| Freliminary Notices complied with                  | (    |
| Statutory Notices served                           | _    |
| Statutory Notices complied with                    | -    |
|  |      |
| GENERAL INSPECTIONS.                               |      |
|  | 01.0 |
| Council house repairs, rehousing etc               | 2,48 |
| Drainage   | 172  |
| Factories  | 34   |
| Rodent Infestation                                 | 18   |
| Food Premises                                      | 45   |
| Visits re: Unsound Food                            | 61   |
| Water and Milk Samples                             | 43   |
| Public Utilities Street Works                      | 23   |
| Refuse Collection & Disposal                       | 18   |
| Interviews   | 140  |
| Licenced Premises                                  | 8    |
| Moveable dwellings                                 | 8    |
| Miscellaneous                                      | 102  |
| HOUSING (Public Health & Housing Acts)             | 19   |
| HCUSING (No. of inspections made for that purpose) | 73   |
| Smoke observations                                 | 2    |
| Means of escape in Case of Fire                    |      |
| from certain high Buildings                        | 15   |
| Visits in connection with Applications for         |      |
| Standard and Discretionary Grants                  | 22   |
| Building Byelaws (New dwellings etc)               | 230  |
| Overcrowding                                       | 6    |

## CONDEMNATION OF UNSOUND FOOD.

|   |   | Tons | Cwts. | Qrs. | Lbs.  |
|---|---|------|-------|------|-------|
|   | TUBERCULOSIS.                                       |      |       |      |       |
|   | Whole carcases condemned                            | -    | -     | -    | -     |
| - | Meat  | -    | -     | -    | -     |
| - | Offal   | -    | -     | -    | -     |
|   |   |      |       |      |       |
|   | TOTAL :-  | -    | -     |      | -     |
|   | NON-TUBERCULOSIS.                                   |      |       |      |       |
|   | Whole carcases condemned                            | -11  | -     | -    | -     |
|   | Meat  | -    | -     | -    | -     |
|   | Offal   | -    | -     | -    | -     |
|   | TOTAL :-  | _    | -     | -    | -     |
|   | Total amount - Tuberculosis and Non-Tuberculosis :- | -    | -     | -    | -     |
| T | OTHER FOODS.  |      |       |      | 7     |
|   | Cooked Ham Beef                                     | _    | -     | 1 2  | 22    |
|   | Salmon Sole   | -    | -     | 1    | 11 14 |
|   | Fruit Pudding                                       | -    | -     | 2    | 2     |
|   | TOTAL :-  | -    | 2     | 0    | 13    |
|   | TINS PACKETS  |      |       |      | 200   |

### CATTLE MARKET.

The Council control the Cattle Market, markets being held on alternate Mondays.

Animals entering the Market during the twelve months ending the 31st. December. 1962 were as follows:-

| CATTLE | CALVES | SHEEP | ALL DESIGNATION AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF |        |
|--------|--------|-------|---|--------|
| 742    | 357    | 6,653 | 722   | 8,474. |





