

[Report 1967] / Medical Officer of Health, Crickhowell R.D.C.

Contributors

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CRICKHOWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1967

CRICKHOWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1967.

Chairman of the Council	-	Councillor Col. C.E. Beckwith, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	-	Councillor Mrs. B.L. Greet.
Chairman of the Public Health & General Purposes Committee	-	Councillor Mrs. B.L. Greet.
Vice-Chairman	-	Councillor F.E. Parry.

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MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

COUNCILLORS.

Col. C.E. Beckwith, J.P.
Miss M.A. Haywood.
B.R.P. Couzens.
Mrs. H.M. Davies.
G. Morgan.
J. Jones.
H.J. McIntosh.
D.W. Bevan.
The Rev. A. Reed.
Miss A.D. Jones.
Mrs. B.L. Greet.
A.G. Francis.
C.S. Farr.
F.E. Parry.
L.I. Watkins.
The Rev. J.M. Evans.
W.R. Winstanley.

PARISH.

Partrishow.
Crickhowell.
Crickhowell.
Llanelly (Gilwern Ward).
Llanelly (Gilwern Ward).
Llanelly (Gilwern Ward).
Llanelly (Clydach Ward).
Llanelly (Darenfelen Ward).
Llangattock.
Llangattock.
Cwmdu.
Cwmdu.
Llangynidr.
Llangynidr.
Llanbedr.
Llangenny.
Llangenny.

-----oOo-----

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Crickhowell Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the district, the health of the people and the work of the Public Health Department, during the year 1967.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Members of the Council for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health. Also, the Officers of the Council for their help in all matters appertaining to the duties of the Health Department.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient Servant.

CREIGHTON E. EDWARDS,
B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1967.

Medical Officer of Health	-	C.E. Edwards, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector	-	R.A. Jackson, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Cert. (Meat and Foods).
Housing Inspector	-	M. A. Thomas.

for the Chairman and Members of the
Crickhowell Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present the annual report on the
various circumstances of the district, the health of the
people and the work of the Public Health Department, during
the year 1907.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Members of the Council
for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters
relating to Public Health. Also, the Officers of the Council
for their help in all matters pertaining to the duties of the
Public Health Department.

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1907.

- Medical Officer of Health - J. E. Edwards, B.Sc., M.B., L.D.S., D.P.H.
- Surveyor and Public Health Inspector - K. A. Jackson, B.A., B.S.I., B.A.S.H., Cert. (Health Inspectors).
- Household Inspector - W. A. Thomas.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

<u>Population:-</u>	(Registrar General's estimate)	8,140
<u>Number of Parishes:-</u>		8
<u>Acreage:-</u>	(According to the 1961 census)	46,140 acres.
<u>Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1967:-</u>		£166,784
<u>Product of a Penny Rate:-</u>	Actual 1966/67	£648. 0. Od.
	Actual 1967/68	£660. 4. 11d.
<u>Rate in the Pound:-</u>	1966/67	14. 8d.
	1967/68	14. 8d.
<u>Water Rate:-</u>	1/11d. in the £ with a minimum of £1. 10. Od. per annum.	
<u>Number of Domestic Dwellings (including farms):-</u>		2,610
<u>Number of Council Houses (included in the above Figure):-</u>		505

Crickhowell is a large District in South Breconshire mainly mountainous in character, with an acreage of 46,140 acres.

The District is divided into eight Parishes, Crickhowell, Cwmdu, Llanbedr, Llanelly, Llangattock, Llangenny, Llangynidr and Partrishow, which are mainly agricultural where the workers are employed in farm work, forestry and quarrying.

The District also supplies labour to the Elvicta Handtools Factory in Crickhowell, British Nylon Spinners Ltd., Pontypool, Richard Thomas and Baldwins Ltd., Steelworks, Ebbw Vale and the Glascoed Ordnance Factory, Usk.

The re-housing of families from unfit dwellings continues together with applicants from the ordinary lists in cases of hardship, illness and overcrowding.

Tenants are selected with the assistance of a Points Scheme adopted by the Council so as to allocate houses to families in the greatest need, conditions of existing accommodation, overcrowding and health circumstances, all rating for "points award".

When Council houses are allocated to applicants their old houses are inspected with a view to their future use being considered. These houses, if they are unfit for human habitation and cannot be repaired at reasonable expense, are then covered by a Demolition Order or Closing Order.

HOUSING - DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS

	<u>1967</u> <u>figures</u>	<u>1966</u> <u>figures</u>
Unfit dwellings added to the 'unfit' list during the year 1967.	9	3
Unfit houses closed or demolished under the Housing Act, 1957, in the year 1967 (including the dwellings vacated in Crickhowell that were covered by the 1937 Clearance Orders)	5	10
Number of applicants for Council Houses on 1st January, 1967.	133	140
Number of applicants remaining on the Council's list 31st December, 1967.	148	133
Total number of post-war Council Houses 1st January, 1967.	505	482
Number of Council Houses completed during the year 1967.	22	17
Number of Council Houses under construction during the year 1967.	7	8
Number of Private Houses completed during the year 1967.	59	44

School Medical Service, Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics, and the provision of school meals are carried out by the County Council.

The health of the district during the year has been good. The incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis has been low during the year.

There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. Inspections have been carried out from time to time of various food handling shops, bake-houses, licensed premises and shops selling ice-cream in accordance with the Regulations. Minor defects have been pointed out and corrected. It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings under the Food and Drugs Act, the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, or under the Office, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.

No action has been necessary under this Section during the year 1967.

SECTION A

	Crickhowell R.D.C.			Breconshire C. Council
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
<u>BIRTHS</u>				
No. of legitimate Live Births	61	56	117	700
No. of illegitimate Live Births	2	-	2	36
Total Live Births	63	56	119	736
Birth Rate per 1000 Population 1967	-	-	14.6	13.57
Registrar General's Comparability Factor			1.10	1.11
No. of Still Births Legitimate	1	3	4	16
No. of Still Births Illegitimate	-	-	-	-
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births			1.68	4.89
Total Live and Still Births			123	752
Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births	-	-	33	21.27
<u>DEATHS</u>				
Total Deaths for District	43	36	79	703
Crude Death Rate per 1000 of the population	-	-	9.7	12.96
Registrar General's Comparability Factor	-	-	1.01	0.89
Corrected Death Rate	-	-	9.79	N/A
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths from Maternal Causes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

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

(Continued)

	Crickhowell R.D.C.			Breconshire C. Council.
	Male	Female	Total	
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age:-				
Legitimate	1	-	1	8
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	-	-	8	12.22
Total				
Legitimate	-	-	8	10.86
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1.35
<u>NEO NATAL MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:-				
Legitimate	1	-	1	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1
Total	1	-	1	7
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births:-	-	-	8	9.51
<u>EARLY NEO NATAL MORTALITY</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age:-				
Legitimate	1	-	1	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1
Total	1	-	1	7
Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	-	-	8	9.51
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u>				
Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age plus No. of Still Births:-				
No. of Deaths under 1 week of age	1	-	1	9
No. of Still Births	-	3	3	16
Perinatal Mortality Rate:-	-	-	41	31.25
<u>CANCER DEATHS</u>				
No. of Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms and Lymphatic Neoplasms	4	5	9	89
Cancer Death Rate	-	-	1.10	1.64

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1. Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	1	-
2. Tuberculosis (Other Form).	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease.	-	-
4. Diphtheria.	-	-
5. Whooping Cough.	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections.	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-
8. Measles.	-	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	-	2
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	2	-
12. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus.	-	-
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	-
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	2	3
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	-	-
16. Diabetes.	1	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	7	11
18. Coronary Disease, Angina.	15	9
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	-	-
20. Other Heart Disease.	5	5
21. Other Circulatory Disease.	1	1
22. Influenza.	-	-
23. Pneumonia.	2	-
24. Bronchitis.	3	-
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	1	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of Prostrate.	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-
31. Congenital Malformations.	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	2	2
33. Motor Vehicle accidents.	-	-
34. All other accidents.	1	1
35. Homicide and operations of war.	-	-
36. Suicide.	-	-
ALL CAUSES	<hr/> 43 =====	<hr/> 36 =====

SECTION B.

PUBLIC ANALYST:

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

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY
SERVICE:

Dr. H.D. Gray,
The Public Health Laboratories,
Clytha Square,
Newport, Mon.
(Newport 65431)

AMBULANCE FACILITIES:

The Breconshire County Council
Ambulance stationed at Cwmdru.

MATERNITY AND CHILD
WELFARE:

The Clinic is situated at the rear of
the Old Town Hall, Crickhowell, and
is attended by the County Medical
Officer of Health and his assistant
Medical Officers, and by Nurse J. Silk,
the Health Visitor.
(Crickhowell 208)

WELFARE:

The District Welfare Officer,
Mr. Verley Rees, has an office in Bailey
Street, Brynmawr, and also attends offices
in Crickhowell and Gilwern. The
Breconshire County Council have facilities
for Part III Accommodation under the
National Assistance Act at Cockcroft
House, Hay, and Crawshay House, Brynmawr.
(Brynmawr 254)

ISOLATION HOSPITAL:

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

SECTION C

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifications The following cases, other than Tuberculosis, were notified during the year 1967.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>
Measles	40
Whooping Cough	2
Scarlet Fever	1

Tuberculosis A schedule of new cases and removals from the Register is given below.

New Cases				Removals from Register			
Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	1	0	0	4	1	0	1

Number of cases remaining on Register 31st December, 1967.

Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
M	F	Total	M	F	Total
17	15	32	3	2	5

SCHOOLS No schools were closed during the year 1967, in consequence of infectious diseases.

SECTION D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER

The South-East Breconshire Water Board are responsible for the public water supplies in this Council's area.

The Council's area has a piped water supply to all centres of population served mainly from local springs harnessed to small local reservoirs. The supplies to Llangenny, Glangrwyney, Crickhowell (part), Gilwern (part) and Blackrock are chlorinated. These are now sampled regularly by the Water Board, but, as in the past, bacteriological results vary considerably due to the catchment areas frequently being unfenced agricultural ground. However, the Water Board have now commenced their comprehensive scheme to harness their three main sources to a large grid distribution system that will supply an adequate and pure water to all areas, and so dispense with the present local springs which can be doubtful and poor in yield.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLES

PUBLIC SUPPLIES

Supply	Satisfactory	Slight Contamination	Heavy Contamination
*Llangenny	1	-	-
*Gilwern (Hydram)	1	-	-
Gilwern (Maesgwartha)	1	-	-
Gilwern (Brunant)	-	1	-
Llangattock (Ffawyddog)	-	1	-
Llangattock (Tyle)	-	1	-
*Crickhowell	1	-	-
Cwmdu	-	1	-
*Llangynidr	1	-	-
* Denotes a chlorinated supply			
<u>PRIVATE SUPPLIES</u>	1	1	3

The reports on samples of water from the public supplies are forwarded to the South-East Breconshire Water Board for their information and action.

ESTIMATED POPULATION SUPPLIED BY A PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

Estimated total	8,140 (Reg. Gen. estimate for 1967)
Estimated population supplied into the house	7,072
Estimated population supplied by standpipes	15
Estimated total population supplied	7,087
Estimated population without a public piped water supply	1,053

This figure includes 300 for Cwrt-y-Gollen Camp.

This figure includes 300 for Cwrt-y-Gollen Camp.

This figure includes 300 for Cwrt-y-Gollen Camp.

Parish	Estimated Total Population	Estimated Population Supplied		
		Piped Supply	Standpipe	Total
Crickhowell	1,520	1,463	Nil	1,463
Cwmdu	728	402	11	413
Llanbedr	227	54	Nil	54
Llangynidr	517	431	Nil	431
Llangattock	874	739	Nil	739
Llangenny	662	594	Nil	594 Includes 300 for Cwrt-y-Gollen Camp
Llanelly	3,544	3,389	4	3,393
Partrishow	68	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	8,140	7,072	15	7,087

RODENT CONTROL

A full time Rodent Operator is employed by the Council and he has carried out the following treatments during the year:-

Private Dwellings	335
Business Premises	22
Schools	6
Sewerage Systems	Regular Treatment
Refuse Tips	" "
Brooks in Villages	" "
Farms in the area surveyed and treated.	

The Report of treatments carried out has been forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

In spite of farm surveys, and the offer of treatment under Contract, the response has been poor and only ten farms were continually under contract.

Contracts have also been signed for Cwrt-y-Gollen Military Camp, Tymawr School, Tymawr Farm and Elvicta Handtools Factory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Cheltenham and Clydach Sewerage System

This system has now been in operation for over twelve months and is operating very satisfactorily. The Clydach area has been given a new lease of life with many householders taking the opportunity of having bathrooms and hot water supplies installed.

The unhygienic and unpleasant task of householders digging and burying the contents of pail closets is a thing of the past, and the roadside gutters, on both sides of the valley, are free of discharged sink and bath water.

At the enlarged Aberbaiden Sewage Works, receiving the drainage of Gilwern, Clydach and Govilon, some 4,000 persons in total, conditions are good. The 'inflow' is averaging 130,000 gallons per day, and is increasing annually with continued development, principally at Gilwern and in the area of the Abergavenny Rural District Council at Govilon.

The final effluent, discharging to the River Usk, is of the approved standard, and the sludge drying problem has been completely overcome with the additional beds and the periodical addition of Aluminium Chlorohydrate.

Large areas of the Works have been levelled and reseeded, and the general appearance is most pleasing.

Bwlch and Llangynidr Sewerage Scheme

The year saw the commencement of the above scheme after very many years of active planning and pressure by this Council.

The Contractors, being J. F. Dymond & Sons, Ltd., made a start in November, 1967, and, in spite of bad weather during the winter, have made good and steady progress and are ahead of schedule.

The Scheme will pick up drainage from 75 premises in Bwlch, and 141 premises in Llangynidr, and discharge it to a Sewage Works situated on the high ground to the north of the River Usk. The proposal to have a joint Works for both villages necessitates the laying of a sewer through the rocky bed of the Usk River from Llangynidr and a pumphouse and rising main from the river to the Works.

At the same time as a sewer is laid in the riverbed, the opportunity will be taken to lay a watermain in the same trench for the use of the South East Breconshire Water Board.

Heavy and continuous rock has been encountered, as envisaged, near to the surface in many areas in Bwlch and progress can only be made, in some instances, by blasting every inch of the way.

Crickhowell and Llangattock Sewerage Scheme

This system has operated satisfactorily during the year including a period of serious flooding over the lower part of Crickhowell in early December, 1967.

Samples of the effluent passing to the river are satisfactory apart from high suspended solid content indicating the Works to be operating at above capacity. This is understandable when one considers that nearly 200 new premises have been constructed in the sewered area of Llangattock and Crickhowell since these Works were designed in 1951.

As instructed your Consulting Engineers submitted to you in October, 1967 a proposed scheme for enlarging the Sewage Works, pumps and rising main, at an estimated cost of £71,500. The scheme would be in two stages, the first stage accommodating 220 new premises and the second stage a further 380 premises, calculated to be the probable development during the next 30 years at a rate of 20 dwellings per year.

The first stage will cost approximately £60,000 and the second £11,500. The high cost of the first instalment being due to the immediate necessity of increasing the pump, rising main, river main capacities, and amending the lay-out of the Sewage Works.

In view of the development to commence in 1968 at Pregel Farm, some 128 dwellings, the Consulting Engineers have been instructed to prepare the scheme for presentation to the Ministry without delay.

Tretower Proposed Sewerage System

Your Consulting Engineers are now preparing a sewerage scheme for the 27 properties of Tretower Village at an estimated cost of £29,000.

The small sewerage works to be sited on the banks of the Rhiangoll stream below the village.

The water supply to this area has always been insufficient in times of drought, and the position will be aggravated by the installation of a water-borne sewerage system, as reported to you in my special report of 1954.

Other Schemes

Llanbedr Sewerage System and the seven housing estate systems have operated satisfactorily, but routine sampling by the Usk River Authority has indicated poor results at Llanbedr and Llangynidr. The former is due to insufficient sewage entering the Works and the latter to overloading.

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS

Regular maintenance and sludge removal, by pumping with the Wickham Towed Diesel Pump, has been carried out at the treatment plants situated at the following Housing Estates:-

Penallt, Penllwyn, St. Michael's Close, Groesffordd, Glasfryn Terrace and also the Village of Llanbedr.

The treatment plants at Glangrwyney and Llangenny are pumped out and the sludge taken away by Contractors' Tanker at three monthly intervals. This was arranged to prevent smell nuisance to occupiers of houses in the locality.

Daily maintenance has been given to the two larger public sewage works at Crickhowell and Gilwern and to the eleven electrically operated sewage pumps in the area.

The pumps have been given regular inspection by the Insurance Company Inspectors and their reports have been satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING - REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The general scavenging of the area has operated satisfactorily with the lorry travelling some 7,250 miles and carrying away 15,000 cubic yards of refuse to the tips at Crickhowell and Gilwern.

The Shelvoke and Drewry, fore and aft tipper, 20 cubic yard refuse collection vehicle is now in the fourth year of operation. It has proved to be a great success in cutting down dust during loading, greater carrying capacity and reduction in mileage.

Consideration is now being given to a joint pulverisation scheme with Abergavenny Borough and Abergavenny Rural District Council. The scheme envisaged is a pulverisation and tin baling plant situated on a site in the Abergavenny district which would receive all the refuse from the three districts.

Pulverisation will reduce bulk by 50% and produce a final residue that will not ignite, will be devoid of vermin and will be satisfactory as a final cover.

The purchase of a second Refuse Collection Vehicle is also being considered to assist with the existing round and to collect from areas not at present visited. This second vehicle will also be essential if the pulverisation scheme comes into being and all refuse has to be transported to Abergavenny.

The whole of the scavenging area is now collected on a once per week system, with cafes, hotels, fish shops, etc., being collected twice per week if the premises are conveniently situated for this collection. The average daily collection being about 500 premises.

The regular treatment of the tip faces with an insecticide powder, applied by a "blower", continues to give an excellent result in the reduction of any fly or wasp nuisance.

Continuous control of rat infestation is carried out at both Tips.

The 1967 Anti-Litter Campaign was again supported by the Council by the display and issue of anti-litter posters to shops, hotels, and schools, and the stationing of more litter baskets and bins in the area.

FOOD AND DRUGS

FOOD CONDEMNED AND VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED

The following goods, were on inspection, found to be unfit and were voluntarily surrendered:-

- 60 Pkts. Assorted Ice Cream
- 23 Pkts. Assorted Mousse
- 30 Jars Lemon Curd
- 12 Tins Health Salts
- 15 Tins Tomatoes
- 5 Tins Meat
- 6 Tins Peas
- 6 Tins Beans
- 9 Tins Milk
- 2 Tins Fruit
- 2 Tins Stew
- 8 Tins Herbs
- 4 Tins Salmon
- 4 Tins Health Drink
- 5 Tins Marvel
- 1 Jar Raspberry Jam
- 1 Pkt. Kraft Cheese
- 16 Pkts. Baking Powder
- 1 Pkt. Biscuits
- 4½ lbs. Sausages
- 20½ lbs. Butter
- 1½ lbs. Tea
- 9 Pts. Vinegar
- ½ lb. Margarine
- 3 Chickens
- 6 Bottles Flavouring Essence
- 1 Bottle Tomato Sauce
- 8 Cakes
- 4 lbs. Soft Brown Sugar
- 23 lbs. Margarine
- 26 lbs. Lard
- 13 lbs. Castor Sugar
- 8 lbs. Demarara Sugar
- 10 lbs. Tomatoes
- 9 lbs. Plain Flour
- 4 lbs. Carrots
- 14 lbs. Breadcrumbs
- 7 lbs. Cheese
- 5 lbs. Onions
- 7 lbs. Sage & Onion Stuffing
- 1 Large Tin Salt
- 6 Lemons
- 8 Oranges
- 2 Whole Fillet Steaks

- 3½ Dozen Eggs
- 5 Gallons Cooking Oil
- 4 lbs. Colmans Mustard
- 11 Cartons Nuts and Raisins
- 1 Carton Crisps
- 2 Pkts. Milk Chocolate Revels

ICE CREAM

Forty five premises are now registered for the sale of ice cream under the Food and Drugs Act.

The following new registrations were granted during the year:-

- Breconshire County Council, County Youth Centre, Gilwern.
- Co-operative Retail Services, Darrenfelen.
- Mr. F. E. Richards, 23 High Street, Crickhowell.
- Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Bevan, 51 Orchard Close, Gilwern.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The above Act called for registration of all those premises where persons are employed, and the necessary registration forms were distributed, collected and copies forwarded to the Fire Authority.

The end of the year registrations were as follows:-

Offices	6
Retail Shops	19
Wholesale Shops	0
Catering Establishments	6
Fuel Storage Depots	0

TOTAL

31

Inspections are now being carried out to ascertain that all the provisions of the Act are covered.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND KNACKER'S YARD

There are no licensed slaughterhouses or public abattoirs within the area of this Authority.

Slaughtering occurs within the neighbouring districts where facilities are adequate, and this Council did contribute a proportion of the cost of a fully qualified Meat Inspector at Brynmawr Slaughterhouse. The latter premises have now been modernised and a charge made for meat inspection.

The Knacker's Yard of Mr. J. Davies, Tredegar, situated at Gilwern, has been regularly inspected and found to be efficiently and hygienically operated with full records maintained.

SURVEYS AND INSPECTIONS

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during the year 1967:-

Detailed House Inspections	773
Public Health Acts	712
Food	9
Factories	19
Complaints Investigated	127
Scavenging Investigations	52
Drainage Investigations	176
Water Supply Investigations	19

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Housing conditions continue to improve with the installation of modern amenities to old houses with the aid of improvement grants.

In the twelve months covered by this report thirty improvement grants were approved, being nineteen Discretionary Grants and eleven Standard Grants.

Standard Grants were introduced in 1959, and following is a comparison of grants approved over the past fourteen years:-

	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants	Total
1953	1	-	1
1954	12	-	12
1955	21	-	21
1956	13	-	13
1957	15	-	15
1958	14	-	14
1959	19	2	21
1960	13	1	14
1961	15	5	20
1962	14	13	27
1963	16	7	23
1964	14	6	20
1965	8	22	30
1966	19	12	31
1967	19	11	30

PLANNING AND BYELAW APPLICATIONS

For the twelve months ending 31st December, 1967, the following applications were made:-

- 253 Applications for Planning Approval.
- 272 Applications for Building Regulations.

NOTICES SERVED

Informal		Statutory	
Served	Complied with	Served	Complied with
9	9	0	0

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

Details of the routine inspections at the sixteen factories in the area are contained on separate Ministry forms.

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