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Contributors

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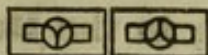
The
**Dolgelley Urban District
Council**

THE
Annual Report

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year

1943



Printed by Hughes Bros., "Dydd" Office, Dolgelley.

DOLGELLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Rees, and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present the annual report upon the Sanitary conditions of your area for the year ended 31st December, 1943.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births	For I.M. etc.		For B. Rate	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Legitimate	13	10	0	0
Illegitimate	1	2	0	0
Total	14	12	0	0

Still Births	For I.M. etc.		For B. Rate	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Legitimate	1	0	0	0
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0	0

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age.

	Male	Female
Legitimate	3	0
Illegitimate	0	0
Total	3	0

Public Health Services.

1 M.O.H. (part-time), 1 Sanitary Inspector (certificated); full time in conjunction with Dolgelley Rural District.

Nursing in the Home.

There has been no change in the arrangements for (a) general nursing; (b) nursing of cases of infectious diseases.

Water Supply.

Water is supplied by a private Water Company. Samples were taken and the results of the analysis were satisfactory; excepting periods of shortage, interference with the mains and the plumbo solvent nature of the water.

The Council is negotiating with the Water Company for purchasing the works and have appointed Major A. H.

Waters (Civil Engineer), Birmingham, as Consulting Engineer.

I would like again to emphasise the importance that such an essential commodity as water should be vested in the hands of the Local Authority.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewers which are constructed mainly of stone culverts have functioned satisfactorily during the year. During the greater part of the year an enormous volume of water from the surrounding mountains enters the culverts and they are effectively flushed.

I have again to call the attention of the Council to the objectionable method of discharging the sewerage of the District in a crude state to the river Wnion.

Rivers and Streams.

There was no pollution of rivers and streams during the past year in this area beyond that produced by a few careless inhabitants who throw small quantities of waste material or rubbish in them at times. There is no excuse for this as the district is systematically scavenged three times every week. There are no large industries in the district to produce any material pollution.

Closet Accommodation.

Practically all the houses have separate water closets with proper flushing apparatus.

Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	517
Earth Closets	...	...	...	...	...	11

The earth closets are on the outskirts of the town, and their contents are disposed of in the gardens or adjacent fields.

Public Cleansing.

Scavenging is done by contract, and the house refuse is collected three times a week by a motor lorry during the morning.

I have repeatedly called the attention of this Authority to the need of a cover for the lorry when in use.

The receptacles used by some of the inhabitants for storing the refuse at night outside their dwellings are altogether unsatisfactory. The old boxes, pails, hampers, etc., at present seen in use are most objectionable. These receptacles should be made of galvanised iron with well fitting metallic covers to insure protection from the sun and air. A satis-

factory solution of this problem will not be reached until the Local Authority provides and maintains standard ashbins in place of the boxes, pails, etc., in common use.

The refuse is taken to a tip provided by the Council about a mile outside the town, along the Tallylyn Road. A constant endeavour is being made by the Council's staff to effect controlled tipping, but an open tip used by contractors, shop-keepers, etc., is objectionable, unsightly, and a bad advertisement to the town. The provision of a covered lorry and new bins cannot be dealt with during hostilities.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area, 1943.

Total number of formal notices issued...	12
number complied with ...	12
Total number of informal notices issued ...	nil
number complied with ...	nil
Total number of New Houses completed ...	nil
Number of plans—new houses, buildings ...	nil
Visits to Bakehouses ...	4
Number of Notices re Defects ...	0
Visits to Cowsheds ...	4
Number of Visits re Defects ...	0
Number of Visits to Milk Shops ...	nil
Number of Notices re Defects ...	0
Visits to Dairies ...	4
Number of Visits re Defects ...	0
Visits to Slaughter House ...	72
Number of Notices re Defects ...	0
Notices re Removal of Ashes ...	0
Notices re Removal of Manure ...	0
Notices re Defective Drains ...	21
Number of Visits to Cases of Infectious Diseases...	16
Number of Houses Disinfected ...	12
Notices of Defective Water Fittings ...	20
Number of Pail Closets Converted into W.C. ...	0
Number of New Water Closets erected ...	1
Total Number of Water Closets ...	517
Pail Closets ...	0
Privies or Other Closets ...	10
Number of Closets serving more than one house ...	14
Milk Samples taken for Ministry of Health :—	
For the County Council ...	4
For Local Sanitary Authority ...	312

Shops.

There was no action necessary during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences.

Smoke Abatement.

There is no nuisance from smoke in this district, and no action was needed.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action was necessary during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public.

Camping Sites.

There are three sites (in this area) used for camping purposes on a small scale. No licenses have been issued in respect of these sites.

Schools.

The co-operation of the School Medical Officer is always secured in dealing with any matters pertaining to the Schools and the Scholars.

Housing.

The thirty new houses erected by the Council on the Ardd Fawr site did ease the housing shortage, but it is hoped that the Council will complete the scheme as soon as circumstances will permit.

A new survey has been made to ascertain the number of houses necessary for slum clearance and overcrowding. The result of the survey will form the basis of the Post-war housing plan. There is a desperate need for new houses as some of the old dwelling houses are totally unfit.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses During the Year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	48
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	51
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses 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 dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health so as to be unfit for human habitation	Incomplete record

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-headings) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation nil

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without the service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 6

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 0

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices 0

(a) By owners 0

(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:—

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:

(a) By owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit nil

No action taken in Sub-Headings 1, 2 and 3 above.

Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

Incomplete record.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The bulk of the milk supply is from the immediate neighbourhood. The few cowsheds in the area need structural improvements, but are kept clean and periodically lime-washed.

No action was taken by the Authority during the year in regard to tuberculous milk or cattle.

There are four producers of Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk, who supply this area

NATIONAL MILK TESTING SCHEME.

The Ministry of Agriculture has established a laboratory in the Town for milk tests and advisory purposes. A total of 312 samples were collected with satisfactory results.

CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

There was no need for this during the year.

SHELL FISH.

There are no Shell-fish or layers in this area.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1943.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small Pox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	2	0	0
Measles	10	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Pneumonia... ..	0	0	0
Erispelas	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	9	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality During 1943.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1943 are as follows:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	0

MEAT INSPECTION AND RECORD.

All the slaughtering is now carried at the abattoir situated in the town.

BAKEHOUSES.

These were inspected and found to be clean and periodically lime-washed.

In conclusion I would like to express my appreciation of the assistance rendered to me during the year by our Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Idwal Roberts.

I beg to remain, Your obedient servant,

R. W. EDWARDS,

B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.