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Gelligaer (Wales). Urban District Council.

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Gelligaer Urban District Council.



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# REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

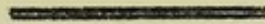
and

### Senior Public Health Inspector

For the year 1957.



Gelligaer Urban District Council.



# REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Public Health Inspector

For the year 1957.

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Public Health Department  
Council Offices  
Hengoed, Glam.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the Year 1957.

The Report is prepared on lines indicated in Circular 1/58 (Wales) of the Welsh Board of Health.

The Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. T. P. Thomas, is included.

The estimated population of the Urban Area is 36,260, an increase of 50 during the year.

As judged by the Table of Vital Statistics, the health of the community has been satisfactory. Infant Mortality was less in 1957. I comment on this on page 9 . During the Autumn, Influenza, the "Asian 'Flu" was widespread in Gelligaer, in common with most other parts of the Country. This visitation was a reminder that all infectious diseases are not yet controlled by human effort.

The chart on page 22 indicates the extent to which the population was affected.

During the year, our community was again largely free from Infectious Disease, apart from Influenza, as already mentioned. The work of protecting school children from Poliomyelitis proceeded as quickly as vaccine was made available to the Local Health Authority. We look forward to the time when vaccine will be sufficient to meet all demands. It is to be noted that less children were protected against Diphtheria.

In the section on Housing, no great extension has been accomplished. Slum Clearance has been commenced, but the number of individual houses that should be closed is becoming greater. The Authority is faced by many difficulties - financial difficulties, subsidence, lack of sites, lack of technical staff. These obstacles must be overcome, so that every family can enjoy a home. I draw attention to the increasing number of aged in our midst, and the need and opportunity to provide suitable accommodation for them.



The incidence of Tuberculosis was the same as in 1956.

Since the war, the position has improved greatly, but Tuberculosis is still present, needing every care and effort to maintain the improving outlook.

During the year, the Mass Radiography Service visited a Bargoed School and Ystrad Mynach, examining 1,150 people.

The Council has continued to make grants to voluntary organisations in the Area to help them in their work on behalf of the aged.

The Public Health Inspectors continued their efforts for the hygienic handling of food. Food establishments, shops and licensed premises were all visited.

The Council, urged by the Health Committee, has considered the topic of Cancer and Smoking. The Health Committee recommended a curtailment of smoking in places over which the Council has authority, but the Council decided "not yet". This new disease will be controlled by a discipline and example. I am sure the Council will shortly lead the way.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

W. BOWEN OWEN

Medical Officer of Health.



Contributions in respect of salaries are made by the County Council towards emoluments of the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspectors; also included is the amount paid by the Rhymney and Sirhowy Valleys Hospital Management Committee for part-time clerical assistance given by Miss Chilton at the Gelligaer Hospital :-

<u>Service</u>	<u>Period of one year ending</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salaries of Medical Officer and Public Health Inspectors and clerk.	31st. March, 1957	£ 1,767

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GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT

Population	-	36, 260
Total acreage	-	16, 772
Rateable Value	-	£198,640
Product of ld. Rate	-	£ 680

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GELLIGAER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman	-	William Jones, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	-	Hopkin Lewis

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

W.H.D.Bennett	W. H. Lee, C.C.
D.S.Blatchford, J.P.	Sydney T. Lewis
E. E. Burgess	W. J. Payne
W. H. Coleman	William Poyntz
D. B. Cooke	G. T. Richards, J.P.
John Davies	Brinley Roberts +
W. E. Davies	H. L. Roberts
H. V. Edwards	K. Turner +
Mrs. A. Haman	A. Williams
Alderman W.A.Hancock, J.P.,C.C.	Cledwen Williams
H. V. James	Douglas Williams
J. H. Jones	H. J. Williams
	Mrs. S. L. Williams, J.P.

( + Mr.Brinley Roberts resigned in November, 1957, and Mr. Turner was elected in his place)

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman	-	Alderman W. A. Hancock, J.P.,C.C.
Vice - Chairman	-	D. B. Cooke

W.H.D.Bennett  
D. S. Blatchford, J.P.  
W. H. Coleman  
W. E. Davies  
Mrs. A. Haman  
H. V. James  
J. H. Jones  
William Jones, J.P.  
W. H. Lee, C.C.  
Hopkin Lewis  
G. T. Richards  
Mrs. S. L. Williams, J.P.



CHIEF OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk of the Council	-	D. W. C. Morgan, Ll. B.
Treasurer and Accountant	-	Rhys Williams
Engineer and Surveyor	-	W. T. Luke, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E.
Housing Manager	-	G. Lloyd Williams
Omnibus Manager	-	W. H. Collins

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	-	W. Bowen Owen, J.P., B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Senior Public Health Inspector-		T. P. Thomas, A.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.H.
District Public Health Inspectors	-	D. G. Vallis, A.R.S.H., M.P.I.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.H.  E. G. Rawlings, A.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector, R.S.H.
Rodent Officer	-	T. J. Morris
Clerical Staff	-	L. Chilton.



	Estimated population 1957	BIRTHS			DEATHS			INFANT MORTALITY		NEO NATAL MORT.		
		Number of Births	Rate per 1000 Population Crude Adjusted		Number of Deaths	Rate per 1000 population Crude Adjusted		Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1000 Live Births	Deaths under 4 wks.	Rate per 1000 Live births	
England and Wales		722,952	16.10	-	514,946	11.5	-	16,641	23.00	11,904	16.5	
Administrative County												
Urban Districts	740,600	12,081	16.31	16.15	9,085	12.27	13.99	380	31.45	263	21.77	
Rural Districts	535,500	8,826	16.48	16.32	6,582	12.29	14.13	290	32.86	202	22.89	
	205,100	3,255	15.87	16.35	2,503	12.20	13.18	90	27.65	61	18.74	
<b>Health Division. Constituent Districts</b>												
Aberdare and	Aberdare Urban	40,100	611	15.24	15.70	581	14.49	14.92	23	37.64	18	29.46
Mountain Ash.	Mountain Ash Urban	30,590	520	17.00	16.83	411	13.44	16.26	23	44.23	15	28.85
Caerphilly and	Caerphilly Urban	37,330	666	17.84	16.95	352	9.43	12.73	21	31.53	15	22.52
Gelligaer	Gelligaer Urban	36,260	667	18.39	18.94	405	11.17	14.07	22	32.98	14	20.99
Mid Glamorgan	Bridgend Urban	14,810	278	18.77	17.83	173	11.68	12.61	13	46.76	8	28.78
	Maesteg Urban	22,640	365	16.12	16.12	271	11.97	15.20	11	30.14	10	27.40
	Gmore & Gare Urban	22,180	339	15.28	15.28	256	11.54	13.96	10	29.50	4	11.80
	Porthcawl Urban	10,310	130	12.61	12.86	140	13.58	11.54	6	46.15	5	38.46
	Penybont Rural	35,660	596	16.71	17.38	524	14.69	13.22	19	31.88	11	18.46
Neath and District	Neath M.B.	31,170	435	13.96	12.98	379	12.16	13.74	13	29.89	7	16.09
	Neath Rural	41,370	607	14.67	14.38	426	10.30	13.08	15	24.71	13	21.42
Pontypridd & Llantrisant	Llantrisant Rural	25,780	467	18.11	17.39	262	10.16	13.00	14	29.98	10	21.41
	Pontypridd Urban	37,590	585	15.56	14.94	527	14.02	15.28	17	29.06	11	18.80
Port Talbot & Glyncoerwg	Glyncoerwg Urban	9,750	212	21.74	21.31	107	10.97	15.69	6	28.30	5	23.58
	Port Talbot M.B.	47,780	899	18.82	18.26	505	10.57	13.64	35	38.93	22	24.47
South East Glamorgan	Barry M.B.	42,020	765	18.21	17.48	464	11.04	12.14	28	36.60	20	26.14
	Cardiff Rural	39,180	593	15.14	16.20	561	14.32	11.74	14	23.61	10	16.86
	Cowbridge M.B.	1,010	11	10.89	11.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Cowbridge Rural	19,310	360	18.64	20.69	148	7.66	13.33	8	22.22	6	16.67
	Penarth Urban	19,200	321	16.72	16.55	232	12.08	11.11	11	34.27	9	28.04
West Glamorgan	Gower Rural	11,920	197	16.53	17.36	159	13.34	12.14	8	40.61	5	25.38
	Llwchwr Urban	25,860	348	13.46	13.73	289	11.18	13.08	6	17.24	5	14.37
	Pontardawe Rural	31,880	435	13.64	13.78	423	13.27	14.46	12	27.59	6	13.79
Rhondda	Rhondda M.B.	106,900	1,674	15.66	15.35	1,479	13.84	16.05	45	26.88	34	20.31



## EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Population - 36, 260

<u>Live Births</u>				<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	642	311	331
Illegitimate	...	...	...	25	16	9
Total	...	...	...	667	327	340
<u>Still-Births</u>						
Legitimate	...	...	...	14	9	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-
Total	...	...	...	14	9	5

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LIVE BIRTHS

1939	...	...	...	724
1940	...	...	...	778
1941	...	...	...	733
1942	...	...	...	785
1943	...	...	...	777
1944	...	...	...	791
1945	...	...	...	742
1946	...	...	...	794
1947	...	...	...	830
1948	...	...	...	786
1949	...	...	...	759
1950	...	...	...	708
1951	...	...	...	631
1952	...	...	...	629
1953	...	...	...	664
1954	...	...	...	644
1955	...	...	...	672
1956	...	...	...	644
1957	...	...	...	667

As a matter of interest, I give the following figures :-

BIRTHS

1901	...	717
1911	...	1720
1921	...	1363
1931	...	847
1941	...	733
1951	...	631



INFANTILE MORTALITY

The causes of Death in 1957 are tabulated below :-

AGE	Deaths occurring			
	At home		In hospital	
	No.	Cause	No.	Cause
0 - 1 day	-		1	Prematurity
1 - 2 days	1	Atalectasis	1	Prematurity
			1	Atalectasis
2 - 3 days	1	Cerebral haemorrhage	1	Prematurity
3 - 4 days	-		-	
4 - 5 days	-		-	
5 - 6 days	-		-	
6 - 7 days	-		-	
1 - 2 weeks	1	Atalectasis	1	Prematurity
			1	Pneumonia
2 - 3 weeks	-		1	Prematurity
			1	Pneumonia
			2	Meningocele
3 - 4 weeks	-		1	Prematurity
1 - 2 months	1	Broncho-pneumonia	2	Heart disease
2 - 3 months	1	Misadventure	-	
3 - 4 months	1	Broncho-pneumonia	-	
4 - 5 months	-		-	
5 - 6 months	-		-	
6 - 7 months	-		-	
7 - 8 months	1	Misadventure	1	Pneumonia
			1	Fibrocytic dis.Pancreas
8 - 9 months	-		-	
9 - 10 months	-		-	
10 - 11 months	-		-	
11 - 12 months	-		-	



INFANTILE MORTALITY

		<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Deaths of Infants under one year	-	22	8	14
Legitimate	-	22	8	14
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-

As shown in the Table of Vital Statistics, the Infant Mortality Rate per per 1,000 live births in England and Wales was 23.0; in the Administrative County was 31.45 ; in Gelligaer was 32.98.

I append a Table showing the Infant Mortality Rate in Gelligaer for the past ten years. This Table shows a considerable fluctuation and reflects instability in conditions which affect the health of the new born.

1948	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	42.00
1949	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	36.00
1950	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	36.72
1951	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	28.53
1952	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	31.80
1953	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	31.63
1954	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	45.03
1955	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	49.11
1956	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	48.14
1957	-	Infant Mortality Rate	-	32.98

In dealing with Tuberculosis, the Doctor is able to send a patient into Hospital immediately he suspects anything to be not quite right.

When the hospital bed is immediately available to the expectant mother at any stage in her pregnancy ; and when the expectant mother makes full use of the services available, then Infant Mortality will no longer be a source of anxiety.



DEATHS

Deaths during the year numbered 405 - Males 242, Females 163.

1939	-	474
1940	-	435
1941	-	439
1942	-	410
1943	-	427
1944	-	440
1945	-	454
1946	-	422
1947	-	437
1948	-	356
1949	-	422
1950	-	406
1951	-	482
1952	-	433
1953	-	389
1954	-	437
1955	-	449
1956	-	422
1957	--	405

MATERNAL DEATHS

There were no Deaths in which pregnancy was a factor.

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In considering the Registrar General's Returns, there are points of interest. Following, there is a Table showing the number of Deaths in each of three age groups for the past ten years. In considering the age at Death, it is interesting to note how many people live beyond the allotted span of three score years and ten.

Age at Death	Male	Female
65 - 69 years	27	12
70 - 74 years	45	24
75 - 79 years	35	31
80 and over	34	39

A comparison of age at Death for the past ten years is shown :-

	<u>1947</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>
No. occurring before the age of one	53	33	27	26	18	20	21	29	33	31	22
No. occurring between 1 and 65	168	156	150	150	193	144	145	144	135	139	136
No. occurring upward of 65	216	167	245	230	271	269	223	264	281	252	247

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DEATHS FROM CANCER

The number of Deaths from all forms of Cancer was 43.

1948	-	44
1949	-	54
1950	-	55
1951	-	60
1952	-	64
1953	-	54
1954	-	57
1955	-	52
1956	-	68
1957	-	43

CANCER OF THE LUNG

1950	-	5	-	all males
1951	-	13	-	11 males, 2 females
1952	-	6	-	all males
1953	-	4	-	3 males, 1 female
1954	-	3	-	all males
1955	-	11	-	all males
1956	-	11	-	7 males, 4 females
1957	-	7	-	all males

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Deaths from Violent Causes occurred in 29 instances.

Among these,      Accidents in the Home caused 2 Deaths  
                            Accidents at Work caused 11 Deaths  
                            Motor Vehicle Accidents caused 6 Deaths.

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CAUSE OF DEATH

The Chief Causes of Death were as follows :-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths from Heart and Circulatory Diseases ...	81	53	134
Deaths from Cancer ... ..	27	16	43
Deaths from Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	20	28	48
Deaths from Measles ... ..	-	-	-
Deaths from Bronchitis ... ..	27	7	34
Deaths from Whooping Cough ... ..	-	-	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea, Gastritis and Enteritis	-	2	3
Deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	3	2	5
Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	-	-	-
Deaths from Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	4	2	6
Deaths from Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	-	1
Deaths from Influenza ... ..	8	1	9
Deaths from Pneumonia ... ..	9	7	16
Deaths from other Diseases of the Respiratory System	15	1	16
Deaths from Violent Causes .... ..	18	5	23

THUS :-

Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System	-	134	Deaths
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	-	48	Deaths
Cancer	-	43	Deaths
Bronchitis	-	34	Deaths
Violent Causes	-	23	Deaths

are the chief instruments of Mortality.

Tuberculosis is no longer a common cause of Death.



PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Number of cases of Whooping Cough notified - 79 - Deaths nil  
 Number of cases of Measles notified - 666 - Deaths nil.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES - AGE DISTRIBUTION

Disease	Total	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65-75	75+
Poliomyelitis - paralytic	4	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis - Non paralytic	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1
Pneumonia	22	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	10	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Salm. Typhimurium	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid B Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Sonne Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	25	-	1	-	3	1	17	2	1	-	-	-

In September, Influenza, popularly known as "Asian 'Flu", became widespread in the Area. The infection was not of great severity, but it had two marked effects.

The number of sufferers was so great that dislocation of work and school and home life was evident. School attendance dropped to 50 % or less in many schools.

Whilst many sufferers recovered fairly quickly from the febrile illness, many did not recover their former feeling of good health for two or three weeks. The "Asian "Flu" was a serious illness to men and women suffering from chronic bronchitis or other chest troubles.

In brief, this Influenza was widespread, affecting old and young, the strong and the weak; borne well by the healthy and badly by the frail.

Of 59 deaths due to Influenza, Pneumonia and Bronchitis, 36 occurred during the last four months of the year.

It is well worth noting that while there were 666 cases of Measles during the year, there was not one death due to this Infectious Disease.



TUBERCULOSIS

AGE GROUP	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	5	4	-	1	-	1	-	-
35 - 44	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	1	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
55 - 64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 - 69	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
70 and over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total	14	17	-	1	3	2	-	-

Total number of Deaths from Tuberculosis was 5. The number of Deaths of notified cases was 3; number of Deaths of non-notified cases - 2. Ratio of non-notified cases to total number of Deaths from Tuberculosis - 2 : 3.

The non-notified cases were found at post-mortem examination to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Incidence and Deaths

<u>Year</u>	<u>Incidence</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
1940	77	30
1941	67	24
1942	83	22
1943	83	31
1944	89	22
1945	68	27
1946	63	15
1947	49	20
1948	49	21
1949	51	26
1950	54	19
1951	38	13
1952	44	9
1953	34	10
1954	54	4
1955	57	8
1956	33	8
1957	32	5



Prior to 1940, the only large scale prevention of Infectious Disease by inoculation was vaccination against Smallpox. In 1940, Immunisation against Diphtheria was commenced in Gelligaer. A few years later, immunisation against Whooping Cough was introduced at the Infant Welfare Clinics. In 1955, B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis was made available by the Local Health Authority. In 1956, another new preventive inoculation was made available - vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

		<u>Primary</u>	<u>Re-Vaccination</u>
1950	-	38	18
1951	-	137	64
1952	-	152	26
1953	-	177	45
1954	-	150	6
1955	-	125	21
1956	-	124	5
1957	-	125	6

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

1948	-	705
1949	-	469
1950	-	437
1951	-	483
1952	-	381
1953	-	417
1954	-	524
1955	-	474
1956	-	481
1957	-	259

B. C. G. VACCINATION

In 1957, 375 children were B.C.G. Vaccinated.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

In 1957, 2,289 children were vaccinated against Poliomyelitis

I am indebted to Dr. E. C. Powell, the Divisional Medical Officer of the Glamorgan County Council for information concerning Vaccination and Immunisation.



HOUSING

Mr. T. Luke, B.Sc., the Council's Surveyor and Engineer, has supplied the following information :-

	Permanent dwellings	Temporary dwellings
<u>By the Local Authority</u>		
Number of houses completed and occupied during 1957	8	-
Number partly completed during 1957	8	-
Number sanctioned but not commenced	-	-
Total number of houses completed and occupied since 1918	1,236	100
<u>By Private Enterprise, Building Societies etc.</u>		
Number of houses completed and occupied during 1957	8	-
Number partly completed during 1957	4	-
Number for which plans were passed but were not commenced during 1957	-	-

Mr. George Williams, the Council's Housing Manager, has supplied the following information :-

Number of families rehoused in 1957 - 60 ; this number includes 9 families from the Pontlottyn Clearance Area . Three families in which tuberculosis was a factor were rehoused. Ten families were rehoused by the Council because their dwellings became unfit for human habitation and were compulsorily closed.

WAITINGLIST AT 31st. December, 1957

Total number of applicants - 868  
Families who are sub-tenants - 528



The Council commenced a Slum Clearance Programme at Pontlottyn in 1956. Rebuilding at Pontlottyn was not begun during 1957, although preparations were well advanced.

There is a large number of unsatisfactory houses in the area, many of which would be closed if other accommodation was available.

It is a saddening thought that so many families are unable to obtain a satisfactory home, which is necessary if family health and welfare is to flourish.

Recently, the Housing Manager, Mr. Williams, presented a report to his Committee indicating the number of persons occupying individual Council owned houses.

Of 3 bedroomed houses, 27 are occupied by 1 person  
and 133 are occupied by 2 persons.

Of 2 bedroomed houses, 15 are occupied by one person.

Thus, of 1,272 houses, nearly one seventh are occupied by very small families.

In looking around the district, it is remarkable how many houses have only one or two occupants.

There is a need for small dwellings, especially for the aged. Suitable accommodation would give greater happiness and comfort to the aged ; and would also make available accommodation for the growing family.

I cannot stress too strongly the need to consider this aspect of social welfare, and the opportunity to help.

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ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Conditions are similar to what they have been during the post war years. Measurement of pollution at Bargoed was continued during the year. Measurement at the Swimming baths was discontinued in October, 1954;

<u>Month</u>	<u>Rainfall</u>	<u>Total Solids</u>
January	5. 17 ins.	37. 29 tons
February	8. 63 ins.	39. 30 tons
March	5. 51 ins.	58. 79 tons
April	0. 05 ins.	25. 51 tons
May	1. 89 ins.	21. 81 tons
June	0. 96 ins.	13. 55 tons
July	4. 55 ins.	17. 72 tons
August	4. 56 ins.	19. 50 tons
September	7. 15 ins.	21. 08 tons
October	4. 18 ins.	18. 54 tons
November	2. 83 ins.	12. 74 tons
December	3. 59 ins.	41. 70 tons

During the year, the National Coal Board installed a new Dust Arrester at the Electricity Generating Station. This has brought a welcome relief to the neighbourhood, as the amount of grit in the atmosphere is now considerably less.

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MONTHLY PRODUCTION

Conditions are similar to what they have been during the past few years. Output of production at this plant was maintained during the year. Measurement of production was discontinued in October, 1951.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Total Sales</u>
January	2.17 tons	27.29 tons
February	2.22 tons	28.30 tons
March	2.21 tons	29.31 tons
April	2.25 tons	30.32 tons
May	2.29 tons	31.33 tons
June	2.30 tons	32.34 tons
July	2.31 tons	33.35 tons
August	2.32 tons	34.36 tons
September	2.33 tons	35.37 tons
October	2.34 tons	36.38 tons
November	2.35 tons	37.39 tons
December	2.36 tons	38.40 tons

During the year, the National Coal Board installed a new plant at the existing generating station. This has brought a change in the amount of fuel in the atmosphere to an unacceptably level.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. W. H. James, B.Sc., A.M.Inst.C.E., Engineer to the Rhymney Valley Water Board, for the following report on the Public Water Supply in the Area:-

Source	Satisfactory	Just above limit for satisfactory result	Unsatisfactory	Total
Rhymney Bridge Reservoir				
a) raw water	5	14	31	50
b) treated water	47	-	1	48
Deri Reservoir				
a) raw water	6	10	9	25
b) treated water	28	23	5	56
Taf Fechan - treated water	41	3	-	44

Whenever an unsatisfactory report is made on a particular sample, we immediately increase chlorination.

SUPPLY POSITION DURING 1957

During the first half of the year, some difficulties were experienced in the water supply position, due to lack of rainfall. Restrictions were enforced on all districts north of Bargoed as and from the 26th. June, 1957, the supply being restricted between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. overnight. However, due to rainfall which occurred in July, these restrictions were raised on the 21st. July, when supplies became normal.

DEVELOPMENT

No major development occurred actually in the Gelligaer Urban District Area, but the Board commenced the construction of a 2 m.g. reservoir at Gwernau, Maesycwmmwr, this work being carried out by contract. It is hoped that by July of 1958, one compartment of one million gallons capacity should be completed, and the whole of the project completed sometime during the autumn.

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In addition to the sampling carried out by the Rhymney Valley Water Board, your Public Health Inspectors continued to take samples of the supplies. Details are given in Mr. Thomas' report.

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SWIMMING POOL

The Council provides a large, modern swimming pool in the Park at Bargoed. This pool is extensively used by the public, and for swimming instruction for school children. Occasionally, it becomes too popular, and it is difficult to keep the water in satisfactory condition. Minor alterations to the water circulation have been made in the past few years to improve the chlorination of all parts of the pool.

A toddlers' pool is also provided, and is very popular.

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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following report :-

Samples taken in the Gelligaer Urban District by the County Sampling Officers during the year ended 31st. December, 1957 are as follows :-

Aspirin	-	1	Meat Products (canned)	-	4
Baking Powder	-	1	Milk	-	14
Bicarbonate of Soda	-	1	Margarine	-	6
Bread	-	1	Mincemeat	-	3
Butter	-	7	Marmalade	-	2
Blancmange Powder	-	1	Macaroni	-	2
Coffee & Chicory Essence	-	3	Meat Paste	-	1
Curry Powder	-	1	Marzipan	-	1
Cherry Linctus	-	1	Pudding (canned)	-	1
Chocolate Spread	-	1	Pepper	-	1
Cornflour	-	4	Prunes	-	1
Cream	-	4	Pickles	-	1
Cake & Sponge mixture	-	8	Peel (mixed)	-	3
Custard Powder	-	3	Salt	-	3
Condensed Milk	-	2	Sausage	-	1
Dessicated Coconut	-	4	Sweets	-	2
Dried fruit	-	4	Sugar	-	3
Canned Fish	-	2	Salad Cream	-	3
Fish Paste	-	3	Spaghetti (canned)	-	1
Flour	-	3	Soup (canned)	-	3
Fruit juice	-	2	Shredded Beef Suet	-	5
Ground Almonds	-	1	Sage	-	1
Glace Cherries	-	1	Tomatoes (canned)	-	1
Grapenuts	-	1	Tomatoe Sauce	-	5
Ice Cream	-	7	Table Jelly	-	6
Jam	-	1	Tea	-	1
Lard	-	1	Vinegar	-	3
Lemon Curd	-	3			

A sample of ice cream was found, on analysis, not to comply with the standard prescribed by the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953. Proceedings were taken against the Vendor, resulting in an absolute discharge on payment of the 15s. Od. Analyst's fee, £2. 2s. Od. Advocate's fee, and 4s. Od. costs.



M O R T U A R Y

The Council has continued to maintain a Mortuary. During the year it was used on eleven occasions.

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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No action was taken under Section 47 of the Act during the year.

A number of aged persons were visited during the year. The living conditions of a few old folk are not entirely satisfactory; but they choose the discomfort of their own fireside, rather than the warmth and regular meals of a Hostel or a Hospital.

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MEAT INSPECTION

Most of the meat consumed in the area comes into the shops from the Maesycwmmmer Abattoir. To enable a full time Public Health Inspector, qualified in meat inspection, to be stationed at the Abattoir, the Gelligaer Council agreed with neighbouring Authorities to assist Bedwas and Machen, in whose area the Abattoir is situated, to pay the salary of the Inspector.

Gelligaer pays 1/3rd. - which for 1957 amounted to £168. Bedwellty also pays 1/3rd., while Mynyddislwyn and Bedwas and Machen each pay 1/6th.

The arrangement by which neighbouring Authorities assist Bedwas and Machen Council in this work ceased early in 1958.

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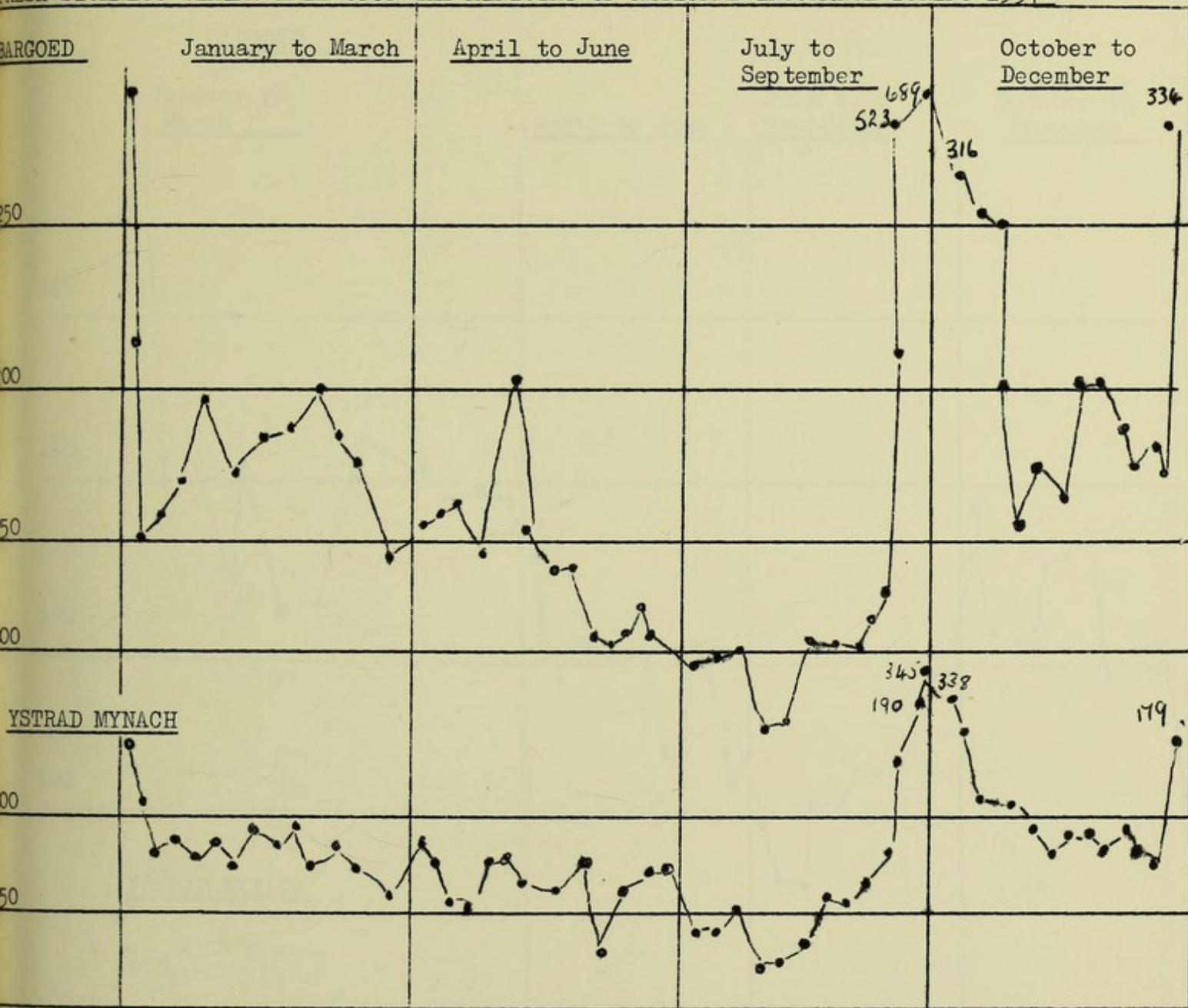
F O O D

No incident of Food Poisoning occurred during the year.

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FRESH SICKNESS CLAIMS MADE UPON THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INSURANCE DURING 1957



graph showing the claims made in 1956 is included for comparison.



FRESH SICKNESS CLAIMS MADE UPON THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL INSURANCE 1956

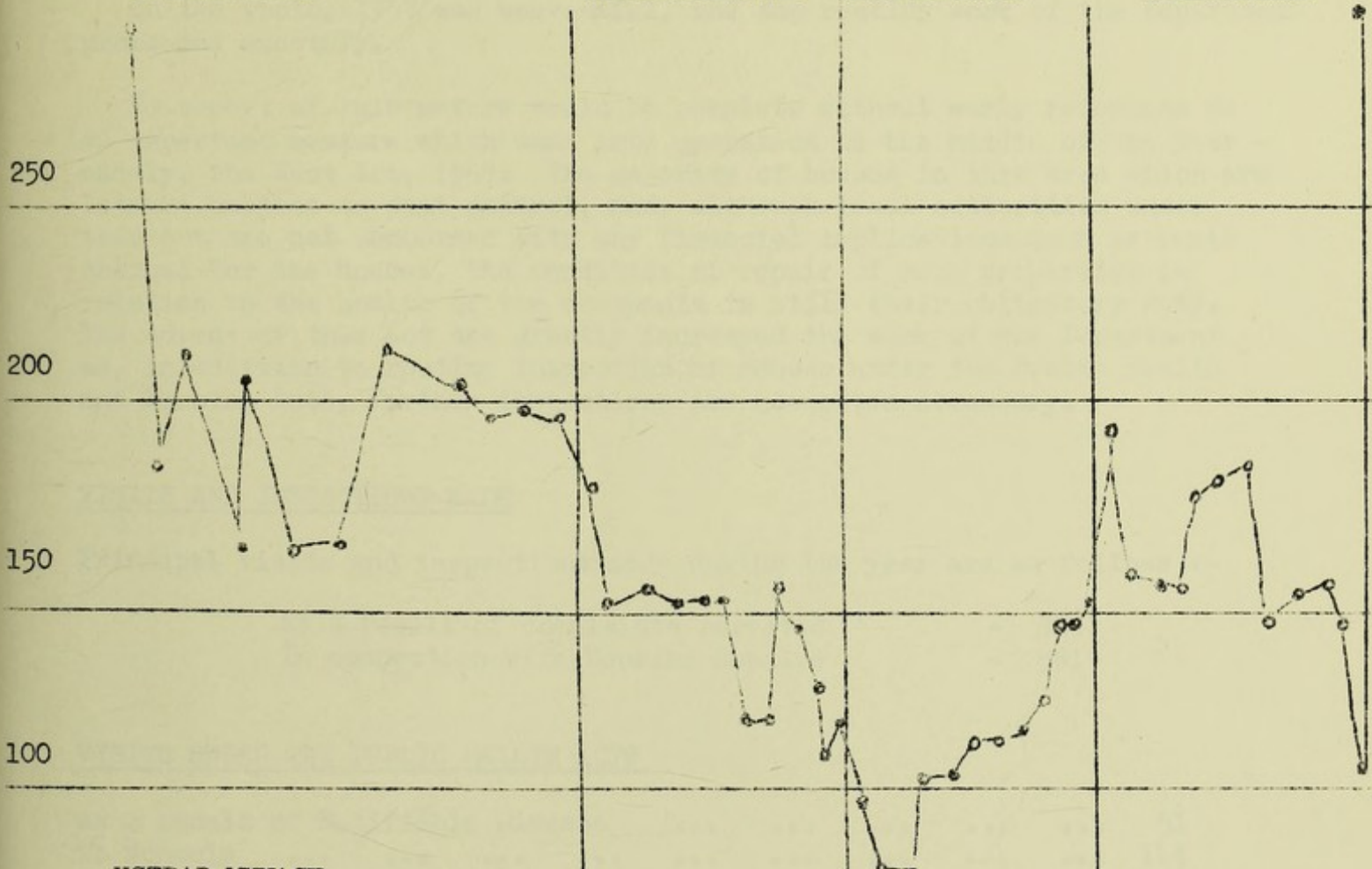
BARGOED

January to March

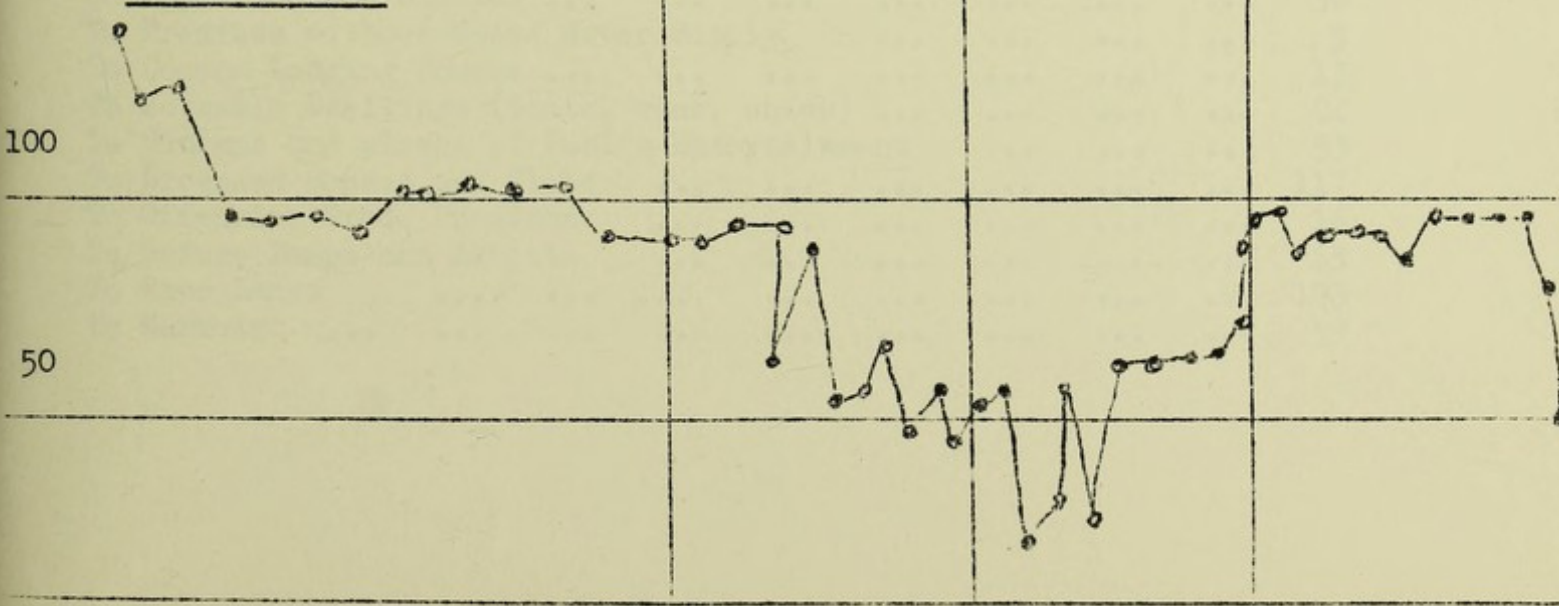
April to June

July to September

October to December



YSTRAD MYNACH





SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT  
 FOR THE YEAR .....1957

The following is a report of the day-to-day working of the Department.

On the whole, 1957 was uneventful, and the routine work of the Department proceeded smoothly.

No report of this nature would be complete without early reference to an important measure which came into operation in the middle of the year - namely, the Rent Act, 1957. The majority of houses in this area which are let are subject to rent control, and, although local authorities under this Act are not concerned with any financial implications such as rents charged for the houses, the condition of repair of such properties in relation to the health of the occupants is still their obligatory duty. The advent of this Act has greatly increased the work of the Department as, in addition to routine inspection of houses under the Public Health and Housing Acts, further inspections are now often necessary.

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE

Principal visits and inspections made during the year are as follows :-

As a result of complaints received	- 816
In connection with Housing Repairs	- 591

VISITS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

As a result of Notifiable Disease	51
To Schools	114
To Piggeries and Stables	36
To Premises without Mains Water Supply	5
To Common Lodging Houses	13
To Moveable Dwellings (tents, vans, sheds)	24
To Cinemas and places of Public Entertainment	53
To Licensed Houses and Clubs	117
To Offensive Trade Premises	16
To Refuse Dumps and Ashpits	63
To Rear Lanes	103
To Markets	59



INSPECTIONS UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955  
and FOOD REGULATIONS

To Dairy Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
To Factories and Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	208
To Grocery and Provision Shops and Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	271
To Butchers' Shops and Sausage Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
To Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
To Industrial and School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
To Ice Creameries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
To Licensed Houses and Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
To Fish Frying Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
To Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
To Markets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59

INSPECTIONS UNDER FACTORIES ACT, 1937

To Factories and Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	208
To Ice Creameries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
To Factories with Mechanical Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
To Factories without Mechanical Power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS UNDER THE VARIOUS HOUSING ACTS

Number of visits made - 591.

Visits and Inspections of houses on the various Council Estates, in company with Mr. George Williams, the Council's Housing Manager, were also frequently undertaken during the year, particularly in the case of dirty, verminous, or otherwise troublesome tenants.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954, and RENT ACT, 1957

I am indebted to the Clerk of the Council for supplying me with the following information :-

Certificates of Disrepair

No. of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair	-	33
No. of Certificates issued	-	18
No. of undertakings from owners accepted by the Council	-	15
No. of applications for revocation of Certificates	-	1 - refused.
No. of forms G issued to applicants	-	875
No. of forms A issued to owners (notice of rent increase)	-	1175
No. of inspections of houses made by Public Health Department in respect of Certificates of Disrepair	-	30



HOUSING ACTS 1936 and 1957, and LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
(MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1953

Demolitions and Closures

No. of Demolition Orders respecting Individually Unfit Houses made under the above Statutes	-	12
No. of Closing Orders made :-		
a) - involving whole of the premises	-	9
b) - involving part of the premises	-	1
No. of Families displaced	-	22
No. of persons affected	-	84

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, Section 92

No. of Defective Houses made fit by Informal Action	-	291
No. of Houses made fit by Formal Action	-	113
No. of cases in which Police Court Proceedings were necessary	-	15

WATER SUPPLY

No. of Existing Houses provided with Mains Water Supply	-	8
No. of Houses where Water Service Pipes were renewed	-	21

Water Samples taken for Analysis

Number of samples taken	-	13
<u>Bacteriological results :-</u>		
Satisfactory	-	2
Unsatisfactory	-	3
<u>Chemical results :-</u>		
Satisfactory	-	8
Unsatisfactory	-	nil

A piped supply of water to dwelling houses is now general in this Area, except to those dwellings and farms where it is impracticable, either because of their isolated position or high altitude, to provide such a supply. In these cases, we are constantly watchful of the purity of the existing supply, and continually striving to improve it.



MILK AND DAIRIES ACT AND REGULATIONS, 1949 - 1954

Since 1954, only Heat Treated Milk, or milk produced from Tuberculin Tested herds, and certified so by the Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, is allowed to be sold in the Area.

There are 10 farms producing T.T. Milk, and 66 other farms producing Ungraded Milk, which is collected daily, conveyed to the Pasteurising Plants, and, after Heat Treatment for a specified period of time, is bottled and distributed as Pasteurised or Sterilised Milk.

There are 31 registered Milk Retailers in the Area.

Frequent samples of all grades of milk produced and sold in the Area are taken and submitted for examination. During 1957, 146 samples were submitted to the Laboratory as follows :-

No. of Samples of T.T. milk taken	-	21
No. of Samples of Pasteurised Milk taken	-	9
No. of Samples of Ungraded Milk taken	-	116

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
T. T. Milk	21	1	22
Pasteurised Milk	9	-	9
Ungraded Milk	90	25	115
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>146</b>

No. of samples examined for Tubercle Bacilli	46
No. of samples found to contain Tubercle Bacilli	1

Cases of abuse and misuse of milk bottles by the general public are continually seen. Frequently, accumulations of milk bottles are to be seen during routine visits to houses, some of these bottles being in a deplorable condition of uncleanness. It is surely not expecting too much of housewives to ask them to return promptly all milk bottles to the retailers, and to see that they are handed back in a reasonably clean condition.

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ICE CREAM

HEAT TREATMENT REGULATIONS 1947 - 1952

85 premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the sale or storage of Ice Cream intended for sale. There are 10 premises registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream in the Area.

The bulk of this commodity today is pre-packed before sale to the public.

Sampling is carried out periodically, and below are given details of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Cardiff for examination.

Number of Samples submitted for examination	-	38
Satisfactory	-	25
Unsatisfactory	-	11
Not examined due to a technical fault	-	2

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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Registered Food Premises

21 premises are registered in the Area under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture and preparation of Potted, Pressed, Pickled, or Preserved Foods, these foods consisting chiefly of meat pies, sausages, faggots and other such meat products.

Food traders, generally, are pleased to co-operate and many of them have gone to no little expense in equipping their shops with refrigerators and frozen food cabinets, basket rails, glass display counter cases, and formica topped tables and counters in an effort to supply foods hygienically to their customers. 3 butchery firms in the Area are now pre-packing fresh meat before sale in their retail shops, an increase of one firm since the last Annual Report was prepared. It can be seen, therefore, that the meat trade, in common with other food traders, are acceding to public demand by wrapping their products in protective packs. The vast quantities of cardboard and paper wrapping used for this purpose, however, bring, in their turn, the problem of disposal of waste material, which is not an easy one to cope with. Despite all these efforts, failure of the human element can nullify the best and most modern equipment, or intentions, and cases of contaminated foodstuffs brought to the attention of the Department during the year include the following :-

- Insect larvae in a can of fruit.
- Cement and cardboard in milk bottles.
- A nail in a slab of cake.
- Mouse droppings in flour.



The purchasing public could also assist in the production and sale of clean food by immediately bringing to the notice of the management of food shops any infringement of the Regulations of which they become aware, or, alternatively, reporting it to the Public Health Department.

FOOD PREMISES

Principal food premises in the Area are :-

Grocery and Provision Shops	-	109
Butchers' Shops	-	38
Bakehouses	-	7
Ice Cream Producers	-	10
Ice Cream Vendors	-	85
Cafes and Restaurants	-	21
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	-	19

There are also a number of 'parlour type' shops selling articles of a general character.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

The following articles of food were found unfit for human consumption and were disposed of by burning, or collection and burial on the Council's Refuse Tips :-

76lbs. Fresh Beef

10 lbs. Ox Liver

Canned Foods

801 lbs. Cooked Ham	83 lbs. Tongue	318 lbs. Corned Beef
125 lbs. Lunch. Meat.	60 lbs. Jellied Veal.	38lbs. Meat Loaf.
48lbs. Chopped Pork.	86 lbs. Stewed Steak.	994 lbs. Tomatoes.
8 lbs. Cherries.	39 lbs. Plums.	12lbs. Apples.
44 lbs. Strawberries.	6 lbs. Raspberries.	63 lbs. Oranges.
9 lbs. Grapefruit.	236 lbs. Pineapple.	131 lbs. Apricots.
49 lbs. Fruit Salad.	214 lbs. Peaches.	262 lbs. Pears.
103 lbs. Beans.	228 lbs. Peas.	4 lbs. Carrots.
21 lbs. Prunes.	23 lbs. Sardines.	6 lbs. Tuna Fish
4 lbs. Pilchards.	19 lbs. Salmon.	5 lbs. Herrings.
2 lbs. Mackerel.		

Miscellaneous Foods

107 lbs. Cheese	21 lbs. Cereals.	9 lbs. Pickles.
37 lbs. Jam.	9 lbs. Canned Pudding.	81 lbs. Soup.
3 lbs. Butter.	49 lbs. Bacon	42 lbs. Haddock.
	112 lbs. Sugar.	

Total weight of foodstuffs found unfit - 2 tons 2 cwts. 3 qts. 11 lbs.





There are 12 licensed slaughtermen in the Area, all of whom must, as a condition of licensing, possess and use an approved type of stunning apparatus.

There is no registered Slaughterhouse in the Area.

21 Cottagers' Pigs were slaughtered and the carcase in each case examined during the year.

Your Public Health Inspectors, as has been customary during the past years, again carried out relief duty at the Maesycwmmmer Abattoir during the holiday period, and during periods of illness of the resident Meat Inspector.

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LICENSED HOUSES AND CLUBS

All licensed houses and clubs in the Area were visited and inspected during the Year with reference to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. These visits and inspections were made both during the hours of business and when the premises were closed to the general public. On the whole, conditions at most of these premises were reasonably favourable. Some infringements of the Regulations were discovered and brought to the notice of the Licensees or Club Stewards. Letters were also sent with the complaints to the Secretaries of the Breweries concerned, or, in the case of Club Premises, to the Managing Secretaries. Notices or letters were in connection with the following defects :-

- 1) - General structural repairs required to five premises.
- 2) - Inadequate water supply to bars at two premises.
- 3) - Broken plaster to walls or ceilings of beer cellars in the case of four premises.
- 4) - Defective flushing cisterns to sanitary conveniences at five premises.
- 5) - Cleaning of walls to sanitary conveniences required at five premises.
- 6) - Inadequate lighting and screening of sanitary conveniences at five premises.
- 7) - Choked drain to sanitary convenience at one premises.

Many of these premises were re-visited and a number of defects found remedied.

Number of Public Houses inspected	-	44
Number of Clubs and Institutes inspected	-	19

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Inspection of all school canteens in the Area takes place periodically as a matter of routine. In general, conditions are favourable.

In some Schools, former classrooms have been adapted for the preparation and cooking of food.

In all Schools, however, tribute must be paid to the canteen staffs for the thoroughness and general cleanliness of their kitchens and equipment.

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COMMON LODGINGHOUSES

Only one Common Lodging House now exists in the Area. This is at Baldwin Street, Bargoed, and is occupied by 22 persons. Inspections are made of the premises from time to time, and during the year it was found necessary to serve one Notice under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 upon the persons having control. The requirements of the Notice were complied with.

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FACTORIES' ACT, 1937

There are 69 Factories operating in the Area. These include Light and Heavy Engineering, Joineries, Motor Repairs Works and Garages, Bakeries, etc.

No. of Factories to which sections 2,3,4,5,6, and 7 of the Factories' Act apply ( with Mechanical Power)	...	...	66
No. of Factories to which section 7 of the Factories' Act applies (without Mechanical Power)	...	...	3
No. of Inspections made during the Year	...	...	101
No. of Notices served :-			
a) structural repairs	-	2	
b) insufficient sanitary conveniences	-	1	



RODENT AND PEST CONTROL

The work of Rodent and Pest Control and Destruction continued throughout the Year.

The two seasonal treatments of sewers were carried out in May and November, and one additional man was engaged for the purpose.

Surface infestations dealt with are set out below :-

	<u>Inspected</u>	<u>Treated</u>	<u>Visits made</u>
Dwelling houses	487	134	536
Business premises	53	29	87
Refuse Tips	9	9	57
Rivers and Brooks	13	13	48
	<u>562</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>728</u>

The banks of the River Rhymney and the many small streams and culverts that connect with it were surveyed and treated. This work was carried out by adjoining Authorities at the same time.

Disinfestation of verminous houses, both Council and privately owned, was again carried out, Council houses after joint inspection by the Housing and Public Health Departments, and private houses at the request of the owner or tenant. In the later instance, a small charge is made.

During the Year, 13 dwelling houses were disinfested of vermin.

Yours faithfully,

T. P. THOMAS

Senior Public Health Inspector





