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GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL
WELFARE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

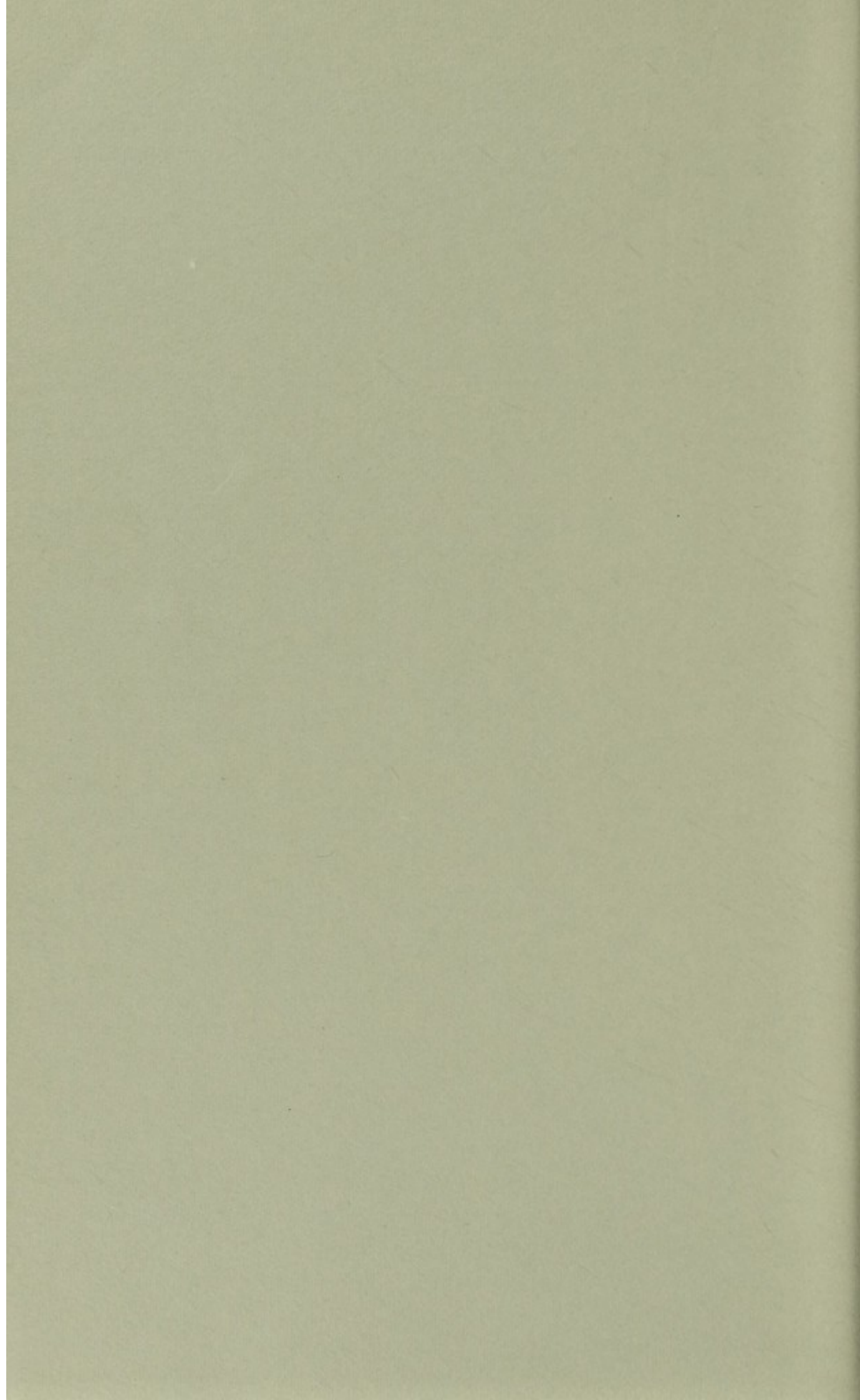
ACTING DIRECTOR OF WELFARE SERVICES

to the

WELFARE SERVICES COMMITTEE

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1966





GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL
WELFARE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

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YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1966

County Alderman WILLIAM LLEWELYN, J.P.
Chairman of the Welfare Services Committee

I. R. JENKINS, A.I.S.W.,
Acting Director of Welfare Services

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GENERAL NOTE

Although, since the 1st July, 1962, certain welfare functions have been delegated to the Rhondda Borough Council under Section 46 of the Local Government Act, 1958, this Report does not attempt to distinguish between the work of the County Council and the Borough Council in this field except where called for.

FOREWORD

I have pleasure in presenting the Report on the work of the department for the year which ended on the 31st March, 1966, the seventeenth in an unbroken series of annual publications by the department. Over the years the Reports have increased in size and scope, but the format, related as it is to the functions carried out by the department under the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948, has changed little.

The demand for residential accommodation continues to increase, in spite of the fact that two new 36-bedded homes were opened during the year—"Morfa Afan," Port Talbot and "Castle View," Caerphilly. There is no doubt that the more homes you provide the greater grows the waiting list. This is illustrated by the fact that, in 1956 with 17 homes in operation, only 17 persons were awaiting admission, whereas at the 31st March, 1966, with 29 homes in operation, 216 persons were on the waiting list. Another striking change which has taken place in the past ten years is the tremendous increase in the demand for female accommodation. In 1956, only 294 women were accommodated in County homes for the aged, compared with 478 men. At 31st March, 1966, the figures were 615 women and 564 men; and of the 216 persons on the waiting list, 158 were women.

The increasing infirmity of residents, their high age groups (a home which in 1956 accommodated 33 residents—only two of whom were aged 85 or over, now has 13 residents in this age group), and the impossibility of recruiting resident attendant staff was highlighted this year by your decision to employ staff for full-time night duty at the small unit homes, a decision which has been of much benefit, not only to residents, but to the officers in charge of your residential homes.

An important feature of your welfare services for the physically handicapped was the bringing into use this year, of three additional purpose-designed omnibuses for the conveyance of very severely handicapped persons to and from the Social Centres, on outings, etc. It is impossible to describe the joy and pleasure the provision of this amenity has brought to physically handicapped persons. This is particularly so in the case of those who have been homebound for many years. Their delight at again being able to see streets and localities, once familiar, but which they had thought never to see again, is indescribable.

May I, in conclusion, pay tribute to the loyalty, zeal and enterprise of all members of the staff of the department. To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Welfare Services Committee, I express sincere thanks for their help, guidance and support, and to officers of other departments for their kindly and helpful assistance.

I. R. JENKINS,

Acting Director of Welfare Services

August, 1966.



AN UNUSUAL VISITOR TO "GWALIA", BARRY

PART I

"THE ELDERLY NEED to remain independent as long as possible in a home of their own. With increasing infirmity they may need special help from the health and welfare services. Those who become too infirm to live on their own need care and attention in homelike surroundings."

MINISTRY OF HEALTH CMND. 1973.

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

During the past twelve months, two new homes were opened, namely "Castle View," Caerphilly and "Morfa Afan," Port Talbot, each providing accommodation for 36 old people of both sexes. Completion of the extension to "Caewern," Neath, resulted in nine additional beds and in all, therefore, 81 new places were made available. Against this, however, has to be offset the loss of beds in pursuance of your policy to improve the accommodation at the large unit homes; the number of beds at "Tegfan," where adaptations are in progress to provide female accommodation, was reduced from 170 to 140 and at "Danybryn" from 107 to 93, whilst the number of old people accommodated at "Graig" was reduced from 78 to 62. Allowing for this gross loss of 60 beds, there has been a net increase of 21 beds and, at the 31st March, 1966, residential accommodation was being provided for 1,238 persons. Full details of the available accommodation are shown in Table 2 on pages 22 and 23.

In furtherance of your Ten-Year Plan, various sites were selected in the last twelve months for the construction of new purpose-built homes, and your future programme is summarised below:—

Former Welfare Area	Existing Provision Homes Beds		Under Erection or in Planning Stage		Projected Under 10-Year Plan			
			Homes	Beds	1967/71 Homes Beds	1971/76 Homes Beds		
Caerphilly	2	73	1	35	2	70	—	—
Aberdare	2	175	2	70*	—	—	—	—
South-East Glamorgan ..	5	156	2	70	2	70	2	70
Pontypridd	3	157	1	60	—	—	—	—
Rhondda	2	93	2	70	3	105	—	—
Bridgend	6	204	3	115†	1	35	1	35
Neath	5	158	2	70‡	4	140	1	35
West Glamorgan	4	222	—	—	—	—	—	—
	29	1,238	13	490	12	420	4	140

* Includes Home for Aged Mentally Infirm at Aberdare;

† Includes Home for Severely Handicapped Persons and nine (9) additional beds at "Moorlands," Porthcawl;

‡ Includes Home for Aged Mentally Infirm at Bryncoch, Neath.

Note.—The Long Term Plan envisages the closure of Part III Accommodation at Graig Hospital and "Bronleigh," Neath; with a further reduction of 10 beds at "Tegfan," Aberdare.

Briefly, your long-term Plan envisages a total of 56 homes in Glamorgan, providing accommodation for 2,200 aged and infirm residents by 1976. Realisation of the Plan depends largely on the availability of sites and the economic climate. For example, projects for new homes at Gellygaer, Cowbridge, Ynysawdre (a home for severely handicapped persons), Upper Boat and the extension to "Moorlands," Porthcawl, originally scheduled in the 1964/65 Building Programme had to be transferred to the programme for the following year because of site difficulties. More frustrating, however, are the recurrent capital restrictions resulting in delays to projects which would otherwise have been well under way. Last year, Government restrictions on capital expenditure led to the deferment of all projects in the 1965/66 programme to 1966/67 (except Brynderwen House, Ferndale, where work had already commenced) with a resulting year's deferment in all subsequent annual building programmes.

The only other amendment to your Ten-Year Plan last year was the decision to defer the home scheduled for either the Caerphilly or Gellygaer Urban District in the 1970/71 programme until better estimates of the aged population in the area were forthcoming.

Two new purpose-built homes for the aged were opened—"Castle View," Caerphilly and "Morfa Afan," Sandfields, Port Talbot. The latter home, which accommodates 36 residents of both sexes, was designed and planned by Messrs. Stephen Thomas and Partners, Private Architects, Newport, in collaboration with the County Architect, and built by the Direct Labour Section of the County Architect's Department at a contract price of £64,500. The home is designed on a self-contained unit system. Each of the three units contains a lounge, eight single and two double bedrooms, two toilets, one bathroom with conventional and foot baths, sluice room, housemaid's cupboard, linen cupboard and cloaks. In addition to the three lounges, a quiet room is provided in a communal area near the entrance which also incorporates a Visitors' room and Matron's office. Each unit is within easy distance of the communal dining room, and the utility room, visitors' cloakroom, dirty linen room, sewing room, clothing and airing cupboards are all conveniently situated in the connecting corridor to the units. Visitors arriving at the entrance hall, where residents can make or receive private telephone calls at a telephone kiosk, are not met with long uninteresting corridors but get the impression of a homely atmosphere immediately.

As an experiment, bedrooms and W.C.s in one of the unit blocks are fitted with sliding doors. These have proved particularly convenient for residents in wheel-chairs and this feature will be repeated in the new home specially designed for severely handicapped residents.

Kitchen facilities comprise a vegetable preparation area, centre island cooking facilities, washing-up area, larder, dry stores and vegetable stores. Modern gas-operated cooking equipment includes two gas cookers, fish fryer and bulk water boiler.

A staff dining/sitting room is conveniently situated between the main entrance hall and the kitchen with staff changing and toilet facilities at hand. Adequate box rooms and storage cupboards are provided throughout the home. The whole of the residents' accommodation is on the ground floor—the limited first floor space providing accommodation for Matron, resident staff and guests. Central heating and domestic hot water services are provided by fully automatic oil-fired boilers.

The home, which is situated within the precincts of the Sandfields Housing Estate, is within easy walking distance of the Aberavon beach and promenade and has bus stops immediately outside.

The furniture and furnishings, selected by a Sub-Committee of the Hostels Management Sub-Committee, were supplied by the County Supplies Department.

Because of the special interest which "Morfa Afan," the first home of its kind in Glamorgan, is expected to arouse, a sketch plan of the layout is shown on page 27.

The following capital projects are under construction:—

<i>Home</i>	<i>Date work commenced</i>	<i>Contractors</i>	<i>Contract Price £</i>	<i>Completion Date</i>
Bryncoch, Neath (35 beds) (Home for Aged Mentally Infirm)	1/7/64	Thomas Cole and Sons Ltd., Neath	64,598	30/6/66
Gellygaer (35 beds)	22/11/65	Staverton Contractors (Wales) Ltd.	65,924	21/5/67
Upper Boat, Pontypridd (60 beds)	7/12/65	G. E. Wallis and Sons Ltd., Newport.	97,755	6/6/67
"Tegfan," Aberdare (conversion of part for female occupancy)	18/8/65	W. H. Snow and Sons Ltd., Neath.	42,500	17/11/66
Ferndale (35 beds)	13/9/65	Knox and Wells Ltd., Cardiff.	90,329	12/6/67

At the 31st March, 1966, projects in planning stage comprised new 35-bed homes at Cowbridge, Kenfig Hill, Barry, Crynant, Cwmavon, Pentre and Mountain Ash, together with a home for the aged mentally infirm at Aberdare and a home for physically handicapped persons at Ynysawdre, Tondy. Sites for these projects have been or are in the process of being acquired, whilst additional sites have been earmarked at Brackla (Bridgend); Park Road, Barry; Cimla; Glynneath; Bargoed and Blackmill.

Residents and Activities

Of the elderly residents at your homes, that is those over 65 years of age, the average age of men is 78 years and that of the women 80 years, the oldest being Miss Duncan who celebrated her 101st birthday at "Bronleigh" on 23rd October, 1965.

This year has produced three marriages in which residents of your homes played leading parts—a couple at "Maesyffynnon" married in March, 1966, and subsequently left to live in a new flat, whilst another

resident of the same home married a lady with whom he is now living at Cwmbach. Another couple at "The Court" were married on 12th February, 1966, and are still residing at the home.

We are always willing to excuse the inventions of the elderly whose "flights of fancy" often carry the stamp of reality at the same time. An amusing incident illustrating one man's search for independence concerned Mr. B. aged 90, who for many years had obtained a living by casual work on farms and with public works contractors. It had been his practice to hibernate during the winter in lodging houses and to 'take to the open road' when spring arrived. He was quite content to remain in "Tegfan" during the winter of 1964/65 but in May made known his desire to take up employment again with a well-known firm of civil engineers who 'were very keen to have his services.' He could not be persuaded to stay at the home and, one sunny morning, well clothed and shod, made his departure. That night, the Warden received a telephone call from the Brecon police that Mr. B., was being returned to the home with the kind co-operation of a long-distance lorry driver, who subsequently deposited him safely at the gates. Mr. B., who seemed somewhat abashed by the turn of events, when asked for the reason for his quick return, stated that he 'had failed his medical' and therefore decided to stay at "Tegfan." He has been there ever since. . . .

No undue restrictions are placed on the movements of residents who are encouraged to maintain their links with relatives and friends who are always welcome to visit them in the home. One man who had been living in deplorable conditions could not be persuaded to apply for admission to Part III accommodation and, following visits by the local Public Health Inspector, the District Council was in the course of obtaining an Order for the man's compulsory removal when he changed his mind as a result of further persuasion and was admitted immediately to one of your homes. The Public Health Inspector had promised to visit the old gentleman in his new home but was prevented from doing so by pressure of work. Mr. E. continually asked the Warden when "his friend" was coming to see him until, on Christmas Day, a visitor was announced and in walked the Public Health Inspector accompanied by his wife who presented Mr. E. with a large box of his favourite cigarettes—they were delighted to hear from him that, had he known what the County homes were really like, he would not have hesitated so long before accepting admission.

A more unusual visitor to "The Gwalia" was Smartie the clown, who was appearing with Billy Smart's Circus at Barry last August. On being introduced to the residents, Smartie was particularly interested to meet 84-year old Mrs. Beatrice Lloyd who, in her younger days, had herself worked with fairground entertainers and a happy photograph of the two appears on page 4. Mr. Billy Smart generously gave complimentary tickets which enabled 20 residents and staff to enjoy a matinee performance at Romilly Park, Barry, with the aid of the Western Welsh Omnibus Company who kindly provided a special 'bus.'

Many other entertainments and gifts were provided by various organisations and individuals particularly at Christmas and Easter—one gift which gave considerable pleasure was an inscribed rose bowl presented to the residents of “Arwelfa,” Cymmer, by the Glyncoirwg Brownie Pack. Each home, too, organised its own day outing to a resort of the residents’ choice, but the highlight of the year was undoubtedly the annual week’s holiday, which this year was held at Llandudno.

In all, 166 residents went on the holiday and were accommodated at the Wavecrest and Ormescliffe Hotels, both of which are situated on the front at Llandudno. Six coaches collected the residents from their various homes and assembled at Bishops Meadow Café, Brecon, for “elevenses” before proceeding to the Metropole Hotel, Llandrindod Wells, for lunch. A further short halt was made at Llangollen before proceeding to Llandudno in time for dinner at 6.30 p.m.

The party was welcomed at the hotels by members of the W.V.S. who were kind enough to place wheelchairs and medical equipment at the residents’ disposal during their stay and, in addition, organised a “sitter-in” service for residents not participating in the afternoon coach tours. The Chairman of the Llandudno Urban District Council also paid a courtesy call at each of the hotels, and warmly welcomed the Glamorgan visitors to the town.

Two afternoon coach trips were arranged—one to Snowdonia and district when a break for afternoon tea was taken at Swallow Falls, Bettws-y-Coed, and a shorter tour was made later in the week to Abergelle, Llanrwst, Talybont and Conway. Trips into town were arranged for residents to do their shopping and entertainment was provided nightly at the Ormescliffe Hotel. This took the form of Bingo, dancing, a concert provided by the members of the W.V.S. and a film show “Doctor in the House” which had been hired from a local cinema by the Manager of the Ormescliffe Hotel. On the last night at Llandudno a special farewell concert was held when some of the residents and staff took an active part.

The total cost of the holiday accommodation per person amounted to £7 17s. 0d., but as the charge for accommodation at the Homes was waived by the County Council, the amount which had to be paid by residents was in no case more than £4 13s. 0d. The cost of transport, meals en route and incidental expenses were met by the County Council.

I have already referred to the increasing age of residents at your homes, fuller details of which can be obtained from Table 3 on page 24. This has been accompanied by a noticeable deterioration in the physical condition of persons applying for admission. In the immediate years following the introduction of the National Assistance Act, 1948, residents admitted to small unit homes, although in need of care and attention, had to be comparatively ambulant and were expected to be able to dress, wash and shave themselves. Moreover, as ground floor accommodation was extremely limited, the majority of applicants had to be able to climb stairs. When more attention than could reasonably be provided by the limited staff in small homes became necessary, on medical recommen-

dation the resident was transferred to a large unit home where adequate staff and night attention were available.

Lifts have now been installed in most homes and admissions, therefore, have no longer been restricted to the more ambulant type of person. Consequently, in recent years, many of the residents at all homes have shown a marked degree of infirmity and, as it is only in exceptional circumstances that transfers to large unit homes can now be effected, the number of senile, confused, frail and incontinent residents in small homes has continued to increase.

These factors have placed a great strain on staff. To deal with the considerable care and attention that is required around the clock and to provide additional attention in case of serious illness or emergency, the existing staff coverage has been found deficient and has placed an intolerable burden on the person in charge of an establishment. The difficulty of recruiting resident attendant staff has aggravated the position and, last year, led to detailed consideration of the provision of night coverage at the small homes. Accordingly, in June, 1965, your Committee recommended that night coverage from 10.00 p.m. to 8.00 a.m. be provided at each of the small unit homes to the extent of 70 hours per week by the employment of female staff who would be employed for fifty per cent of their time on Attendant's duties and fifty per cent on Domestic Assistant's duties.

Accommodation provided by other authorities

Not all Glamorgan residents in need of care and attention wish to enter a County home. Some have relatives or friends in other parts of the country where they would like to spend their declining years. Accordingly, in these circumstances, your Committee invariably agrees to accept financial responsibility for their maintenance in homes run by other authorities and, at the 31st March, 1966, twenty-eight Glamorgan residents were being provided with residential accommodation on your behalf by other authorities as follows:—

<i>Local Authority</i>			<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Breconshire County Council	..	..	1	3
Cardiff Corporation	..	..	—	1
Cardiganshire County Council	..	..	1	1
Carmarthenshire County Council	..	..	—	1
Hampshire County Council	..	..	1	—
Herefordshire County Council	..	..	—	1
London Borough of Westminster	..	..	—	1
Merthyr Tydfil Corporation	..	..	1	3
Monmouthshire County Council	..	..	1	2
Newport Corporation	..	..	—	1
Pembrokeshire County Council	..	..	—	1
Shropshire County Council	..	..	1	—
Staffordshire County Council	..	..	—	1
Surrey County Council	..	..	1	—
Swansea Corporation	..	..	2	3
			<u>9</u>	<u>19</u>

Conversely, 12 men and 21 women were accommodated in Glamorgan homes on behalf of other authorities.

Voluntary homes can sometimes best fulfil the needs of certain individuals by catering solely for specialised problems arising from such disabilities as epilepsy, spasticity, etc., and for persons with group affiliations. To ensure that each Glamorgan resident has the facilities and amenities most suited to his needs, your Committee has assumed responsibility for the cost of maintenance of 86 persons accommodated at the undermentioned homes run by voluntary organisations:—

<i>Home</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Chalfont Epileptic Colony, Bucks...	5	2
David Lewis Epileptic Colony, Cheshire	1	—
Langho Epileptic Colony, Blackburn	1	1
Maghull Epileptic Colony, Liverpool	1	—
Meath Home for Epileptic Women and Girls, Godalming, Surrey	—	1
Llanhennock Cheshire Home, Caerleon	—	1
Danybryn Cheshire Home, Radyr	6	8
Coomb Cheshire Home, Llanstephan	2	1
Cotswold Cheshire Home, Cheltenham	—	1
Crossways Trust Home, Brighton	—	1
The Cripples Help Society Home, Abergele	1	—
The Spastics Society, Essex	2	—
The Spastics Society, Bristol	1	1
The Spastics Society, Worcester	—	1
Searchlight Cripples Workshops, Newhaven	1	—
Home for Aged Jews, Cardiff	—	1
Cardiff, South Wales and Monmouthshire Feder- ation of Sisterhoods, "Holmesdale," Penarth	—	8
Cardiff, South Wales and Monmouthshire Feder- ation of Sisterhoods, "Redcroft," Porthcawl	—	3
Dorincourt Estates, Leatherhead	—	1
Royal Alfred Merchant Seamen's Society, Erith, Kent	2	—
Basingfield Home for the Aged, Hampshire	1	1
W.V.S. Home, Hampstead	—	1
Star and Garter Home, Richmond	1	—
St. Nicholas Home for Deaf Youths, Wembley	2	—
Royal National Institute for the Deaf, Poolemead, Bristol	—	1
South East London Baptist Home	—	1
Herefordshire Old People's Housing Society	—	1
Royal National Institute for the Blind, Westcliffe- on-Sea	—	3
Glynn Vivian Home of Rest for the Blind, Mumbles	2	1
Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead	1	1
Home of Rest for the Blind, Southerndown	1	2

<i>Home</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
British Advent Missions Home, Oulton Broads	—	1
British Legion Home, Bwlch, Brecon	7	—
Methodist Home for the Aged, Bath	—	1
Methodist Home for the Aged, Bury St. Edmunds	—	1
Methodist Home for the Aged, Harrogate ..	—	2
	—	—
	38	48
	—	—

By law, all homes for aged or disabled persons run by voluntary organisations or private individuals must be registered with the County or County Borough Council where the home is situated. Section 37 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, specifies certain conditions which, if not complied with, can lead to the refusal or subsequent cancellation of registration. Every home registered under this section must display the registration certificate prominently and the Authority's authorised officers have the right of entry and inspection of premises so registered.

During the year, one new application for registration was received, namely from the Spastics Society in respect of Mena House, 78 Victoria Road, Penarth, for the accommodation of fourteen spastics. In all, five voluntary homes are registered as follows:—

- (i) "Redcroft," Loughor Gardens, Porthcawl, run by the Cardiff, South Wales and Monmouthshire Federation of Sisterhoods for 25 elderly ladies;
- (ii) "Holmesdale," Holmesdale Place, Penarth, also administered by the Federation of Sisterhoods for 20 elderly ladies;
- (iii) "The Home of Rest for the Blind," Southerndown, run by the Wales and Monmouthshire Regional Council for the Blind for 56 blind persons of both sexes (permanent and holiday residents);
- (iv) "Danybryn," Radyr—a Cheshire Foundation Home providing 36 beds for severely handicapped persons;
- (v) "Mena House," 78 Victoria Road, Penarth, run by the Spastics Society for 14 handicapped persons.

Admissions

The increasing demand for residential accommodation is evidenced by the fact that last year 663 applications for admission were received from Glamorgan residents, including 97 from the Rhondda area—141 more than in the previous year. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to report that all applicants were admitted within a reasonable period but, unfortunately, there are never enough vacant beds to meet demand, and only those whose needs are urgent can hope to obtain early admission. Nevertheless, 407 persons (219 men and 188 women) were admitted to your homes during the year and, at the 31st March, 1966, 216 persons were on the waiting list comprising 58 men and 158 women, the average age in each case being 78 years. In addition, without prejudice to the claims of those on the waiting list, 22 men and 20 women were

admitted to your homes for temporary periods averaging one month, thus enabling relatives who normally look after them to take a much-needed holiday; this was accomplished by using vacant staff bedrooms, guest rooms and, exceptionally, beds vacated temporarily by permanent residents admitted to hospital. If no arrangements of this nature were operated, many old persons who are quite well cared for by relatives for most of the year would have to be admitted permanently to residential accommodation.

A fundamental prerequisite of eligibility for admission to your homes is that an old or infirm person must be in need of care and attention not otherwise available to him. Normally, except for questions of interpretation in some cases, the definition poses few difficulties and all eligible applicants are admitted sooner or later according to the urgency of their circumstances. What is not so simple, however, is the problem of the old person obviously in need of care and attention who adamantly refuses to give up his independence for a place in an old people's home. A County Welfare Authority has no powers of compulsion but the law recognises that, in certain circumstances, compulsory detention in a home or hospital is sometimes justified in the interests of an individual. Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, and the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, therefore provide that in County areas, on the certification of their Medical Officer of Health, County District Councils may apply for a Court Order for the admission to suitable premises of persons who—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

One man and one woman were admitted under these provisions to your homes during the year under review. The man (Mr. W. E. W. aged 84 years) had lived for many years in his own seaside bungalow but had allowed his home to degenerate into a filthy condition. Although he had inherited fairly substantial capital resources, Mr. W. carried thrift to such an extent that he had used no electricity since 1940, collected driftwood for fires and would not buy coal or food. He relied entirely for his meals on the charity of neighbours and persistently refused to apply for admission to residential accommodation. In March, 1965, Mr. W. was removed to hospital under an order obtained by the District Medical Officer of Health, and after his health was restored, was transferred on 18th May, 1965, to one of your large-unit homes where he was compulsorily detained under a fresh order. He subsequently decided to remain in residential accommodation of his own volition and, at his request, has since been transferred to a small-unit home.

Mrs. A. T., a widow aged 87 years, was ordered to be detained at one of your homes under an order obtained by the District Council on 18th January, 1966, in very tragic circumstances. The old lady had lived

with her husband for nearly forty years in a ramshackle "bungalow" in a field half a mile from the nearest road. Two boys out shooting one morning looked through the window and saw Mrs. T. sitting opposite her husband who lay dead in his chair; he had died the previous day and his wife was "waiting for him to wake up." The whole place was dirty and covered in dust, the galvanised roof on the kitchen was held down by stones and the bedroom was a converted railway wagon; water had to be carried from an old well and lighting provided by candles. Because she wanted to remain with her cats, the old lady refused to leave, and had to be compulsorily admitted to a home; even at that stage she continued to assert her independence by refusing to be carried on a stretcher and insisted on walking through snow and ice to a car, parked at the nearest accessible point half a mile away. She has since settled down well and agreed to remain voluntarily in residential accommodation.

Charges for Residential Accommodation

Residents are required to pay for their accommodation in accordance with their resources within the limits of the standard charge fixed by the Authority and a minimum charge prescribed by Ministerial Regulations. Only when a person cannot pay the standard charge, is it necessary for the Authority to assess what smaller sum is appropriate and, for this purpose, certain income specified in the Second Schedule of the National Assistance Act, 1948, must be disregarded, e.g. the first 15/-d. weekly from superannuation benefits and the first 30/-d. weekly from a disability pension, provided that the total amount disregarded from all sources does not exceed 30/-d. weekly. Additionally, each resident is allowed to retain 16/-d. per week for personal spending. Capital assets in excess of £600 create automatic liability for payment of the standard charge except that War Savings up to £375 are discounted. Of capital below £600, the first £100 is disregarded and the balance reckoned as producing a notional income of 6d. from each £25.

The standard charge in operation at your homes during the last twelve months was £9 11s. 8d. weekly, based on the actual cost of providing the service. At the 31st March, 1966, approximately 6% of residents were paying the full charge, 65% the minimum charge of £3 4s. 0d. per week and 29% varying amounts between these two extremes.

Domiciliary Services

The high cost and increasing demand for residential accommodation, coupled with the obvious advantages of care in the community, has served to emphasise the need for intensifying the provision of domiciliary services to enable the elderly and infirm to continue to reside in their own homes for as long as possible. In this, the role played by home nurses, health visitors and home helps of the Health Authority is invaluable. Supplemented by a night "sitter-in" service, hot meals and recreational facilities, the elderly can and in most cases prefer to continue adequately in their own homes.

Under the National Assistance Act, 1948 (Amendment) Act, 1962, the powers of local authorities, including District Councils, were extended to facilitate the provision of meals and recreational facilities for old people. In Glamorgan, representatives of the County and County District Councils have agreed the establishment of a uniform provision of meals for the aged throughout the County area on the following basis:—

- (i) that District Councils be asked to accept primary responsibility for arranging “Meals on Wheels” schemes in their respective areas, either by direct provision or through voluntary organisations;
- (ii) that, subject to the District Councils being prepared to accept this primary responsibility, the County Council be asked to meet 50% of the net cost of each meal provided under these schemes;
- (iii) that the term “net cost of a meal” should include:
 - (a) the actual cost of the preparation and distribution of food;
 - (b) the hire of additional premises or loan charges of newly erected premises;
 - (c) the provision of transport, containers, equipment, etc.;
 - (d) the employment of additional staff;
- (iv) that a charge of 1/3d. be made for each meal served (receipt of this sum would, of course, be taken into account in determining the net cost of the meal to a District Council);
- (v) that a minimum of two meals per week, per person, be provided;
- (vi) that it be left to the discretion of the individual District Councils whether or not to apply any age limit to recipients of the meals.

Seventeen District Councils had adopted the formula by the end of the year and it is anticipated that the County Council will be called upon to make an increasing contribution to this very worthwhile service as the plans of District Councils are put into operation and extended.

As far as recreational facilities are concerned, your Committee in January, 1966, decided that:—

- (i) the demand is difficult to assess and is a local matter best dealt with by District Councils;
- (ii) the provision of meals for old people is a more important need, and the County Council's assistance should be concentrated in this direction;
- (iii) the County Council should re-affirm its policy that, except where applications are received from voluntary organisations whose activities embrace the whole of the County as a unit or from national organisations, any application in respect of recreation for old people should be referred to the District Councils.

Another important service for the elderly provided by District Councils in their capacity as housing authorities is the provision of housing specially suited to the needs of old people. Under Section 56

of the Local Government Act, 1958, County Councils are empowered to make financial grants towards the expenses of District Councils. Since 1961, your Committee has considered applications from District Councils providing grouped dwellings for old people for grants towards the cost of special welfare facilities incorporated in their schemes, e.g. the services of a Warden and his accommodation, the provision of a communal room, a call-bell system, etc. To the 31st March, 1966, grants not exceeding £35 per annum per dwelling have been made to five County District Councils in respect of seven different schemes and five further schemes from four authorities were still receiving consideration at that date.

Booklet on Welfare Services for the Elderly and Handicapped Persons in Glamorgan

In 1958, a booklet containing information on health and welfare facilities available to the public from national, local government and voluntary agencies, etc., was distributed to the aged and infirm in the administrative County. It was subsequently decided that, to be of greatest value, the booklet should be revised and re-issued at intervals of three to five years, depending upon the volume of amending legislation. Accordingly, in 1963, a revised booklet was again issued. On both occasions, distribution was effected by the G.P.O. for Wales who, for a few weeks in an "off-peak period" arranged for a copy of the booklet to be handed to every pensioner collecting his or her retirement pension from the Post Office.

The previous difficulty of ensuring that new pensioners received the booklet, however, has been largely mitigated by the generous offer last year of the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance to effect distribution. To meet the estimated needs of new pensioners over the next three years, therefore, 30,000 copies of a revised booklet were printed and, with the Ministry's co-operation, will be sent to Glamorgan residents as and when they become eligible for a retirement pension.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

Welfare authorities are required by Section 21(1)(b) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, to provide temporary accommodation for persons who are in urgent need thereof, being need arising in circumstances which could not reasonably have been foreseen or in such other circumstances as the authority may in any particular case determine.

The authority is, therefore, charged with accommodating temporarily persons rendered homeless in sudden emergencies which could not have been anticipated, e.g. fire and flood. There is no duty on the authority to provide accommodation for families rendered homeless in foreseeable circumstances clearly attributable to their own shortcomings, e.g. eviction for rent arrears, unsatisfactory behaviour, etc. However, in common with most welfare authorities, your Committee on humanitarian grounds provides temporary accommodation for these families as a last resort.

To implement the authority's statutory duty, your Committee has a scheme based on the assumption that up to 200 persons in all might be rendered homeless simultaneously in one or more areas of the County by fire, flooding or other emergency. Any occurrence of greater magnitude would, it is contemplated, rank as a disaster for which assistance could be expected from government sources. Under your scheme, forty-one halls in the County (including the Rhondda) have been earmarked to meet the need should it arise. Beds, bedding, cooking utensils and other essential equipment are held in reserve by the County Supplies Department, Bridgend, and can be rushed at short notice to the affected areas. Light refreshments can be readily prepared from stocks held by the department in various homes for the aged which are ideally situated throughout the County, and emergency feeding arrangements include the subsequent provision of cooked meals, where necessary, by the School Meals Service which is on call for this purpose at all times. Such occurrences are generally unpredictable and, therefore, designated officers of the department are on call outside normal office hours to deal with any eventuality which may arise. When abnormally high tides are anticipated, these officers are alerted to the need for special vigilance since the danger is more acute.

The department's Area Welfare Officers were called to a number of incidents during the year and in December, 1965, when there was widespread flooding in various parts of the County, it was found necessary to implement your scheme. Between the 17th and 19th December, 1965, Reception Centres had to be opened at Briton Ferry, Aberdulais, Gorseinon, Evanstown, Gilfach Goch and Trehafod. In the main, these centres were used to provide flood victims with light refreshments and cooked meals but it was also necessary to provide sleeping accommodation for 13 persons at the Boy Scouts' Hall, Cadoxton, Neath, and for 26 persons at the Church Hall, High Street, Gilfach Goch. I should like to express my appreciation of the sterling efforts of the Area Welfare Office staffs whose initiative and commendable devotion to duty over a difficult and arduous weekend were most praiseworthy. Tribute is also due to the work of the other departments concerned and to the invaluable assistance rendered by various organisations and individuals.

As a direct result of the December floods there was a serious landslide threat to houses at Pantteg, Ystalyfera and, following consultations with the Pontardawe Rural District Council, an emergency Reception Centre was set up and fully equipped at Moose Hall, Pontardawe. Although the hall was not required it remained available for possible use until the last of the families living in the affected area was rehoused.

During the year, the department was called upon several times to provide assistance for persons made homeless by fire, but in no case was it necessary to operate your scheme. A serious fire occurred in December, 1965, at Gwynfi Street, Blaengwynfi, when four houses were damaged severely. Fortunately no one was injured and temporary accommodation was refused by the families affected since they were given shelter by

friends or relatives until such time as their houses were repaired or they were rehoused by the Glyncothwrg Urban District Council. In respect of all incidents brought to the notice of the department, detailed investigations are made and, although in most cases, the department cannot be of material assistance, the investigating officers do everything in their power to relieve the anxieties of the victims, mainly by putting them in touch with those statutory and voluntary bodies who can be of assistance to them.

Some people, however, become homeless because of their own actions, e.g. eviction for rent arrears or because they have no security of tenure, and, although the authority has no statutory duty to provide temporary accommodation for them, a hutted camp is maintained at Rhose which can accommodate 18 mothers and 72 children to which the mothers and children only of these families may be admitted as a last resort. Where notice of impending eviction is received, officers of the Children's and Welfare Services Departments make every effort to prevent a family becoming homeless. The extent of their success can be gauged from Table 4 on page 25. Of 154 applications received, involving 418 children, only 38 mothers and 126 children were admitted to Rhose Camp during the year. Twelve of these families were admitted from council houses and 26 from private accommodation. Of particular significance is the large increase in homelessness resulting from matrimonial disputes.

Thirty-six mothers and 110 children were discharged from Rhose Camp during the year and it is pleasing to note that only in one instance was it necessary for children to be taken into care on the expiration of the authorised maximum period of six months' residence at Rhose Camp. The average occupancy of Rhose Camp was six mothers and eighteen children, and has fluctuated from three mothers and four children to nine mothers and 33 children. The families spent on average six weeks at the Camp.

I should like to pay tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, the retiring Warden and Matron, who by their efforts over the years, often in trying circumstances, contributed largely to the successful rehabilitation of many of the families passing through the Camp. The work of the Warden and Matron is reinforced by regular visits from the Health Visitor and Child Care Officers and the families are given every assistance and encouragement to secure permanent accommodation as soon as possible.

The weekly standard charge for temporary accommodation last year, based on the cost of running the service, was £5 16s. 2d. per family but the actual charge to each family is calculated in accordance with the authority's Unified Income Scale subject to a minimum charge of £1.

Intermediate Accommodation

The needs of homeless families and, in particular, those who have proved to be unsatisfactory tenants, involve close co-operation between housing and local welfare authorities. Since 1950, emphasis has continued to be placed by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Housing and

Local Government on the division of responsibility between housing authorities on the one hand and children and welfare authorities on the other. Where a family is homeless and no other accommodation is immediately available, it is widely recognised that the welfare authority should provide temporary accommodation. Of recent years, there has been a shift of emphasis to the provision of intermediate accommodation by housing authorities, the main objective being to preserve the family as a unit whilst, at the same time, allowing rehabilitative measures to be taken with a view to eventual rehousing.

To encourage development in this direction, most County Welfare authorities are making increasing use of their powers under Section 56 of the Local Government Act, 1958, to contribute towards the expenses of District Councils and the County Council has approved a scheme of financial assistance, which is subject to review, under which the County Council will reimburse District Councils providing intermediate accommodation:—

- (a) the whole of the approved loss incurred by the Housing Authority when the intermediate accommodation is unoccupied;
- (b) half of the approved loss incurred by the Housing Authority during the period in which intermediate accommodation is occupied.

To date, intermediate accommodation is provided within the County by the Rhondda Borough Council and by a joint scheme administered by the Aberdare, Mountain Ash and Pontypridd Urban District Councils. A similar scheme is also being considered by the Port Talbot Borough Council. It is perhaps too early yet to gauge the effects of intermediate accommodation provided by these authorities but last year it had little or no effect on the average occupancy of Rhoose Camp and, in fact, the number of families admitted to the Camp from the Rhondda area increased slightly during the year.

PROTECTION OF MOVABLE PROPERTY AND RECEIVERSHIP

Under Section 48 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, welfare authorities have a duty to protect the movable property of a person admitted to hospital or residential accommodation if it appears that there is a danger of loss or damage and no other suitable arrangements have been made. The duty mainly arises in respect of the property of patients in mental hospitals whose stay is often protracted. Usually the removal of jewellery and other valuables for safekeeping and the securing and subsequent supervision of the property constitute adequate steps but, in certain circumstances, it is necessary to remove the movable property to store. At the end of the year, your Committee was responsible for the payment of storage charges in respect of the furniture and effects of one mental patient.

In the event of a Glamorgan person being incapable of managing his or her affairs owing to mental disability, a detailed appraisal of the affairs has to be made and, if appropriate, the circumstances reported to the Court of Protection for consideration to be given to the appointment of a Receiver to act on the patient's behalf. In the absence of a relative or close friend prepared to act in this capacity, it is the Court's practice to appoint an officer of a local authority or the Official Solicitor to undertake responsibility and you have authorised me to apply for my appointment as Receiver where appropriate.

As a result of the termination of my predecessor's appointment, the Court of Protection reviewed the circumstances of each patient in respect of whom he was acting as Receiver, in consequence of which it was decided to determine proceedings in four cases. The Receiverships in the remaining cases were transferred to my name and I was appointed Receiver for three new patients. During the year, too, three patients died and the action in relation to two Short Procedure Orders was completed. At the 31st March, 1966, therefore, I was administering the affairs of 40 patients.

STATISTICS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Set out in the following pages are statistical tables and photographs.

Table 1

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES AT COUNTY HOMES

During Period 1st April, 1965—31st March, 1966

Home	New Admissions				Discharges		Deaths		Transfers to Hospitals		Re-admissions from Hospitals	
	From Private Acc.		From Hospitals									
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Arwelfa ..	6	16	2	1	—	2	1	4	6	11	3	5
Bro Dawel ..	3	4	2	6	2	1	2	—	6	8	3	2
Bronleigh ..	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2
Bryneithin ..	—	8	—	2	—	1	—	4	—	12	—	7
Caewern ..	8	4	—	2	3	2	3	—	3	5	2	2
Castle View ..	9	14	1	2	—	1	—	1	2	3	—	—
Clydach Court	7	9	3	4	3	5	1	2	16	8	11	—
The Court ..	10	8	—	3	4	5	4	3	9	4	5	3
Craig-y-Parcau	2	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	3	5	1	3
Danybryn ..	17	4	4	2	9	—	6	3	7	3	4	1
Danygraig ..	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	4	2	1	2
Eastcliffe ..	9	—	5	—	6	—	4	—	4	—	3	—
Fairfield ..	2	1	1	2	—	—	2	2	1	2	2	—
Gardenhurst	10	—	2	—	6	—	4	—	6	—	3	—
Garth Olwg ..	3	4	3	1	2	—	—	3	5	4	3	2
Gellygron ..	—	2	1	2	2	—	1	—	3	1	3	—
Glanymor ..	2	16	1	5	1	2	—	8	8	14	5	10
Gwalia ..	—	6	—	2	—	0	—	5	—	11	—	6
Graig (Part III)	7	7	1	2	2	1	2	2	7	5	—	2
Heddfan ..	3	6	1	3	1	3	6	1	4	2	1	1
The Hollies ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	4
Hyfrydol ..	4	8	1	2	3	3	—	—	3	11	—	6
Llannerch ..	2	2	5	3	2	1	2	2	6	6	1	3
Maesffynnon	7	5	1	—	3	3	2	2	4	2	2	2
Moorlands ..	2	2	3	2	3	—	3	2	4	1	—	1
Mor-Awelon	3	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	2	2	—
Morfa Afan	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tegfan ..	44	—	9	—	18	—	25	—	39	—	18	—
Trem-y-Mor	2	4	4	3	1	2	1	—	6	10	3	5
TOTALS 1965/66 ..	168	139	51	49	75	33	73	46	160	139	76	69

HOMES FOR THE AGED

Table 2

Distribution of Available Accommodation on 31st March, 1966

Area	Home	Accommodation			Floor	Distribution of Accommodation						Total for each Floor
						In Single Rooms		In Double Rooms		In Rooms for three or more residents		
		M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Aberdare ..	Maesy-fynnon	17	18	35	Gr. 1st	1 9	13 —	1 6	5 —	— —	— —	20 15
	Tegfan (provisional reduction)	140	—	140	Gr. 1st	— 1	— —	— 2	— —	54 83	— —	54 86
Pontypridd ..	Garth Olwg	18	17	35	Gr. 1st	4 7	9 3	1 6	3 2	— —	— —	17 18
	Graig Hospital (Part III) ("running down")	26	36	62	1st 2nd	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 26	36 —	36 26
	Heddfan	29	31	60	Gr. 1st	2 1	1 2	4 8	4 4	7 7	8 12	26 34
Caerphilly ..	Bro Dawel	15	22	37	L/Gr. Gr. 1st	5 3 —	— 7 6	4 2 1	— 4 5	— — —	— — —	9 16 12
	Castle View (Opened 3/1/66)	15	21	36	Gr. 1st	6 4	3 11	2 3	4 3	— —	— —	15 21
Rhondda ..	Clydach Court	24	36	60	Gr. 1st	5 5	— 14	— 10	10 —	— 4	— 12	15 45
	Fairfield	15	18	33	Gr. 1st	— 11	9 3	— 4	— 6	— —	— —	9 24
South East Glamorgan	Gwalia	—	31	31	Gr. 1st	— —	— 5	— —	4 10	— —	3 9	7 24
	Eastcliffe	22	—	22	Gr. 1st 2nd	— — —	— — —	— — 2	— — —	5 9 6	— — —	5 9 8
	Garden- hurst	26	—	26	Gr. 1st	— —	— —	— —	— —	10 16	— —	10 16
	The Court	12	29	41	Gr. 1st 2nd	— — 1	— — —	— 7 —	— 3 —	— 4 —	7 12 7	7 26 8
	Bryneithin	—	36	36	Gr. 1st	— —	3 4	— —	2 4	— —	8 15	13 23
Bridgend ..	Craig-y- Parcau	19	20	39	Gr. 1st	3 —	4 10	— 8	— 2	— 8	— 4	7 32
	Danygraig	21	12	33	Gr. 1st	— —	— —	— 2	— —	3 16	5 7	8 25
	Hyfrydol	12	24	36	Gr. 1st	— 6	12 6	— 6	6 —	— —	— —	18 18
	Llannerch	16	19	35	Gr.	2	1	2	6	12	12	35
	Moorlands	7	19	26	Gr. 1st 2nd	— — 6	6 6 —	— 1 —	— 3 —	— — —	— 4 —	6 14 6
	Trem-y- Mor	15	20	35	Gr. 1st	3 4	9 7	— 8	4 —	— —	— —	16 19

TABLE 2—continued

Area	Home	Accommodation			Floor	Distribution of Accommodation						Total for each Floor
						In Single Rooms		In Double Rooms		In Rooms for three or more residents		
		M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Neath	Arwelfa	18	17	35	Gr. 1st	4 7	4 8	3 4	5 —	— —	— —	16 19
	Bronleigh	—	16	16	Gr. 1st	—	— 2	—	— 4	—	3 7	3 13
	Caewern	19	16	35	Gr. 1st 2nd	— 4	1 3	— 4	— 4	— 11	— —	1 26 8
	Mor-Awelon	14	22	36	Gr. 1st	2 2	9 9	6 4	2 2	— —	— —	19 17
	Morfa Afan (Opened 23/3/66)	17	19	36	Gr.	12	12	5	7	—	—	36
West Glamorgan	Danybryn	54	39	93	Gr. 1st	— 1	— 3	6 12	— 8	35 —	16 12	57 36
	Gellygron	10	13	23	Gr. 1st	—	— 1	— 2	— 8	— 8	4 —	4 19
	Glanymor	16	62	78	Gr. 1st	— 1	1 4	4 —	— 12	3 8	12 33	20 58
	The Hollies	4	24	28	Gr. 1st	— 3	7 7	— 1	— 1	— —	— 9	7 21
TOTALS		601	637	1,238		125	225	141	149	335	263	1,238

Table 3

CLASSIFICATION OF RESIDENTS IN COUNTY HOMES BY AGE GROUPS AS AT 31st MARCH, 1966

HOME	Under 65		65-69		70-74		75-79		80-84		85-89		90-94		95-99		100 and over		TOTALS	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Arwelfa	—	—	1	2	6	2	3	5	4	1	—	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	14	17
Bro Dawel	—	1	2	2	4	3	3	4	4	6	2	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	15	22
Bronleigh	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	3	—	4	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	16
Bryneithin	—	—	—	2	—	5	—	7	—	8	—	10	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	36
Caewern	—	—	2	1	4	—	3	6	5	3	3	4	2	—	—	1	—	—	19	15
Castle View	3	1	1	1	2	3	4	5	3	3	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	14	18
Clydach Court ..	1	6	5	7	5	6	6	8	3	7	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	24	36
The Court	2	2	—	2	2	3	4	4	1	7	1	7	2	3	—	—	—	—	12	29
Craig-y-Parcaw ..	1	3	1	2	3	2	2	3	5	—	4	2	2	7	—	1	—	—	18	20
Danybryn	9	10	5	6	11	4	9	6	4	6	12	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	53	38
Danygraig	—	—	2	—	3	—	2	3	7	3	6	1	1	5	—	—	—	—	21	12
Eastcliffe	3	—	1	—	6	—	1	—	5	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—
Fairfield	1	1	—	2	3	2	5	3	3	4	3	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	15	17
Gardenhurst	1	—	2	—	5	—	7	—	5	—	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	26	—
Garth Olwg	—	—	1	—	4	3	2	4	5	3	3	4	2	3	—	—	—	—	17	17
Gellygron	—	1	1	2	2	1	2	3	4	1	—	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	10	13
Glanymor	2	10	2	7	2	9	4	7	1	15	3	5	2	6	—	1	—	—	16	60
Gwalia	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	3	—	10	—	7	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	29
Graig Hospital (Part III)	9	7	5	1	4	3	5	11	2	6	1	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	26	36
Heddfan	4	5	2	4	4	6	5	3	5	3	7	7	1	3	—	1	—	—	28	32
The Hollies	—	2	1	3	1	6	—	7	1	2	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	24
Hyfrydol	—	—	1	4	3	1	3	7	3	5	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	11	22
Llanerch	—	1	2	1	3	2	4	7	5	5	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	15	20
Maesffynnon	—	—	2	1	3	2	5	4	5	4	1	5	1	2	—	—	—	—	17	18
Moorlands	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	5	—	6	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	4	19
Mor-Awelon	1	—	1	2	4	2	4	5	2	7	2	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	14	22
Morfa Afan	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	3	1	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	8	7
Tegfan	28	—	23	—	18	—	20	—	21	—	11	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	128	—
Trem-y-Mor	1	1	3	—	3	2	2	6	2	5	3	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	15	20
TOTALS 31/3/66 ..	66	54	67	54	109	71	105	132	108	124	78	107	31	64	—	8	—	1	564	615
TOTALS 31/3/65 ..	64	64	70	54	128	78	116	121	111	127	65	89	18	37	1	4	—	1	573	575

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

Table 4

DETAILS OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1966

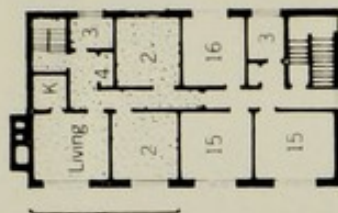
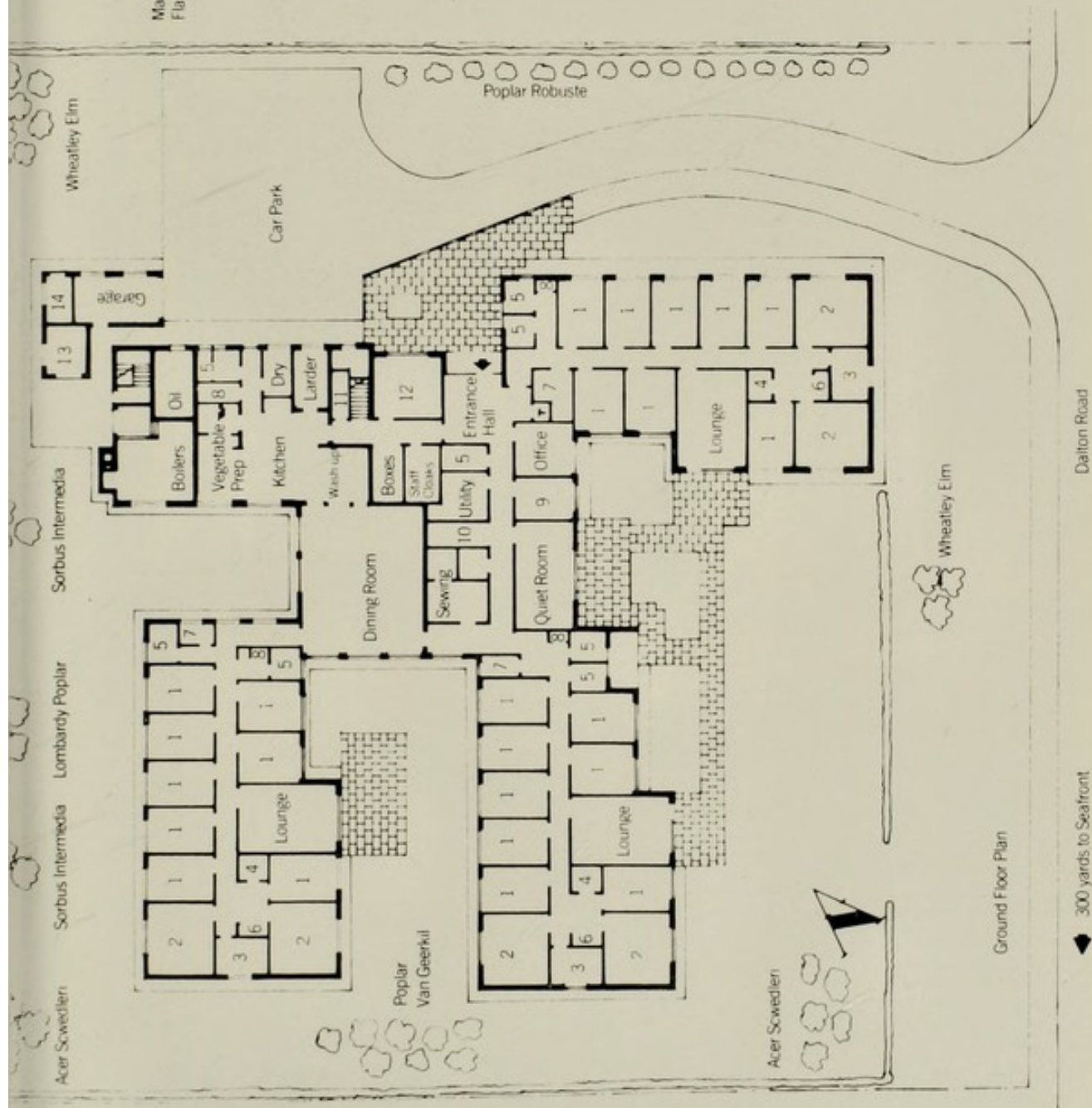
CLASSIFICATION OF DIFFICULTIES CAUSING APPLICATION																																		
Manner in which applications were resolved	Total number of applications received during year	LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSES										PRIVATELY OWNED PROPERTIES							Total number of applications received during previous year 1964/65															
		Eviction for mortgage or rent arrears	Eviction from unauthorised temporary sub-tenancy	Eviction for unsatisfactory behaviour or insanitary conditions	Eviction from "tied" accommodation	Family or Matrimonial Disputes	Totals	Eviction for mortgage or rent arrears	Eviction for unsatisfactory behaviour or overcrowding	Family or Matrimonial Disputes	Eviction from "tied" accommodation	Eviction from unauthorised sub-tenancy	Home destroyed or damaged by fire, flood, etc.	Insecurity of Tenure (furnished rooms, etc.)	Totals																			
		Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch	Wm	Ch																	
Rehoused by Local Authority	5	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	12	5	12	5	19										
Sheltered by Relatives or Friends	18	39	4	10	1	1	—	1	8	—	6	19	—	—	6	10	1	2	1	2	—	—	4	6	12	20	11	29						
Obtained Alternative Accommodation	33	70	4	12	2	4	—	2	3	1	1	9	20	2	6	1	1	2	3	1	2	3	8	12	22	24	50	26	66					
Difficulties Resolved	57	165	36	110	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	37	116	5	11	—	—	2	7	5	12	1	3	3	7	20	49	72	238					
Children taken into care and Mother Accommodated Elsewhere	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6	4	18				
Admitted to Temporary Accommodation	38	126	5	23	—	—	—	3	18	4	14	12	55	3	12	—	—	2	8	9	17	1	2	3	12	8	20	26	71	34	104			
TOTALS	154	418	49	155	3	5	—	6	29	6	21	64	210	11	33	1	1	4	15	25	46	4	9	10	30	27	55	90	208	—	—			
Comparative Totals for Previous Year	152	414	50	188	3	5	2	3	1	2	7	17	63	215	12	39	—	—	6	13	14	30	6	13	14	28	6	15	31	61	89	199	152	414

Table 5

DISCHARGES FROM TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION—YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1966

REASONS FOR DISCHARGE	PERIOD SPENT IN TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION												Comparative Totals for Previous Year 1964/1965			
	One week or less		One week to one month		One month to three months		Three months to six months		Over six months		Totals 1965/66					
	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.	Wm.	Ch.		
Rehoused by Local Authority	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	8	3	15
Obtained Private Accommodation	9	21	2	9	3	5	3	3	1	1	18	39	21	60		
Obtained Accommodation with Friends or Relatives	7	21	1	3	1	4	1	5	—	—	10	33	10	26		
Mother left Temporary Accommodation and Abandoned Children	—	—	1	*8	2	*11	1	*2	—	—	4	21	—	—		
Expiry of maximum period of residence (children taken into care)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	4		
Mothers admitted to Hospital (children taken into care)	1	4	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	7	1	2		
TOTALS 1965/66	18	49	4	20	7	23	5	10	2	8	36	110				
Comparative Totals for Previous Year	8	15	5	13	8	24	12	44	3	11	—	—	36	107		

* Children taken into care



First Floor Plan - over Kitchen

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1 | Single Bedroom | 9 | Visitors |
| 2 | Double Bedroom | 10 | Dirty Linen |
| 3 | Bathroom | 11 | Switchgear |
| 4 | Cloakroom | 12 | Staff Room |
| 5 | Lavatory and W.C. | 13 | Gardener |
| 6 | Linen | 14 | Generator |
| 7 | Sluice | 15 | Staff Bed Sitting Room |
| 8 | Cleaner | 16 | Guest Bedroom |

MORFA AFAN SANDFELDS PORT TALBOT

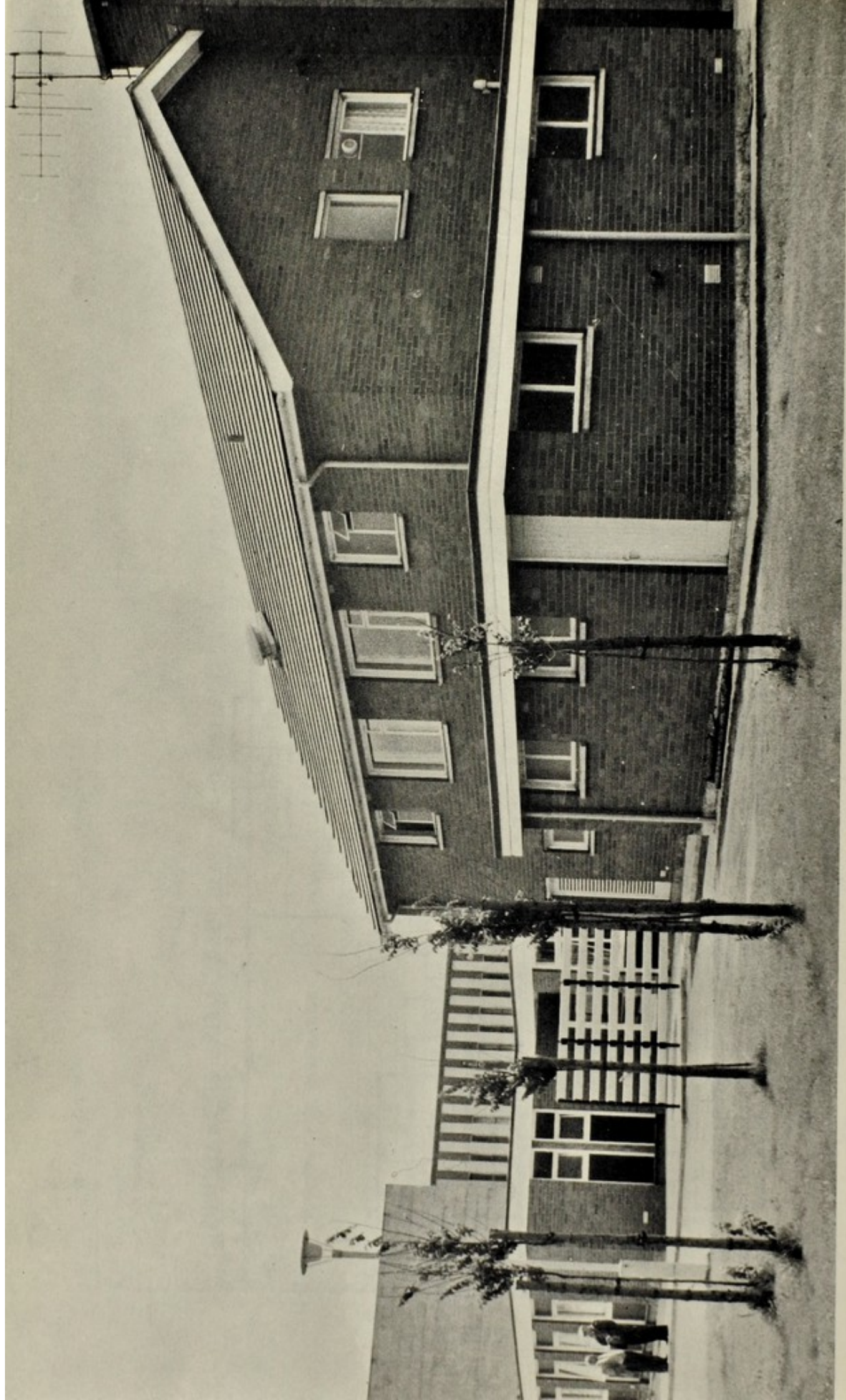
Designed by STEPHEN THOMAS and PARTNERS A / ARIBA
9 Gold Tops Newport

In Collaboration with E. A. E. EVANS ARIBA
Glamorgan County Architect

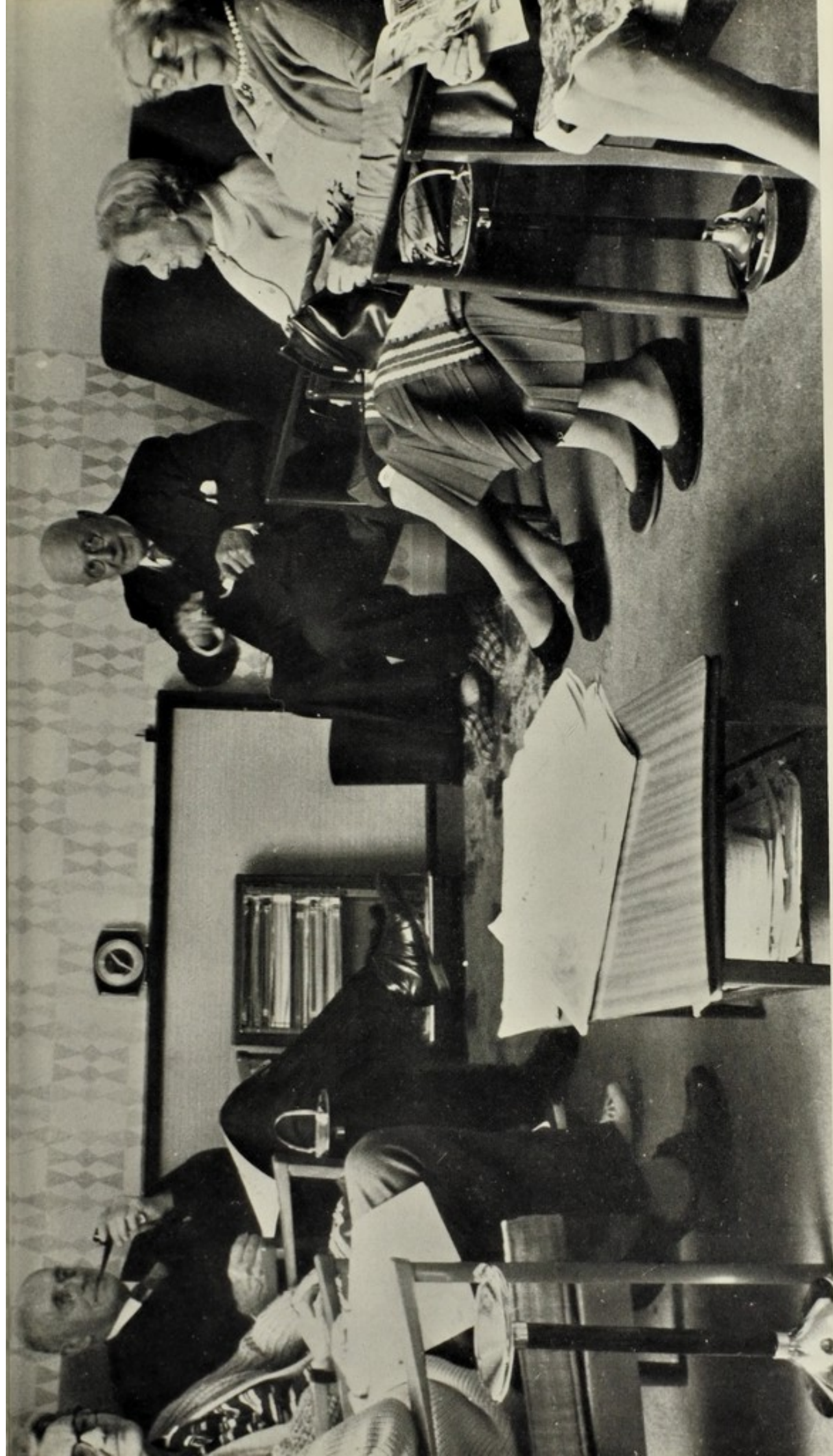
Ground Floor Plan

◆ 300 yards to Seafront

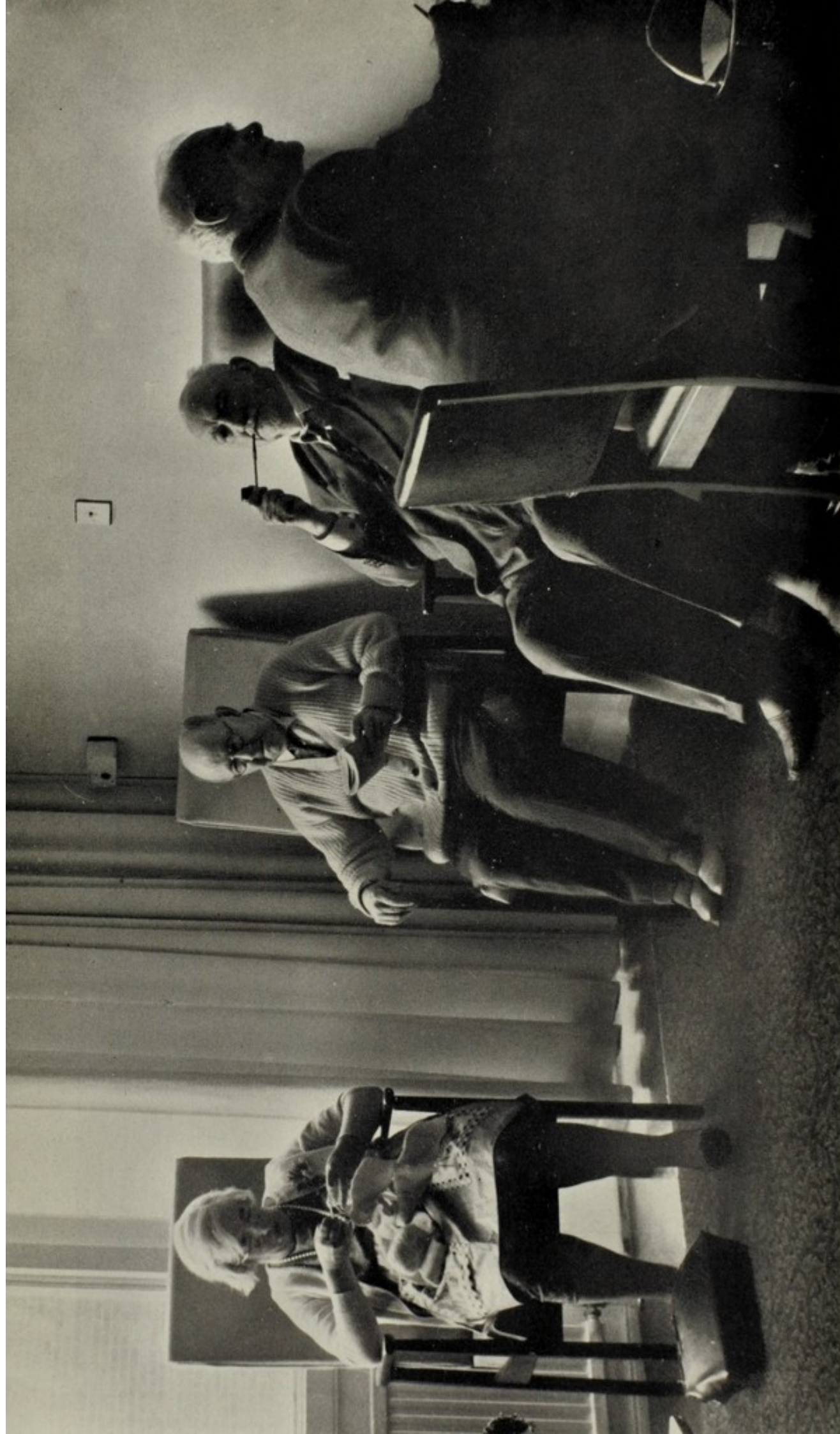
Dalton Road



"MORFA AFAN"—ENTRANCE



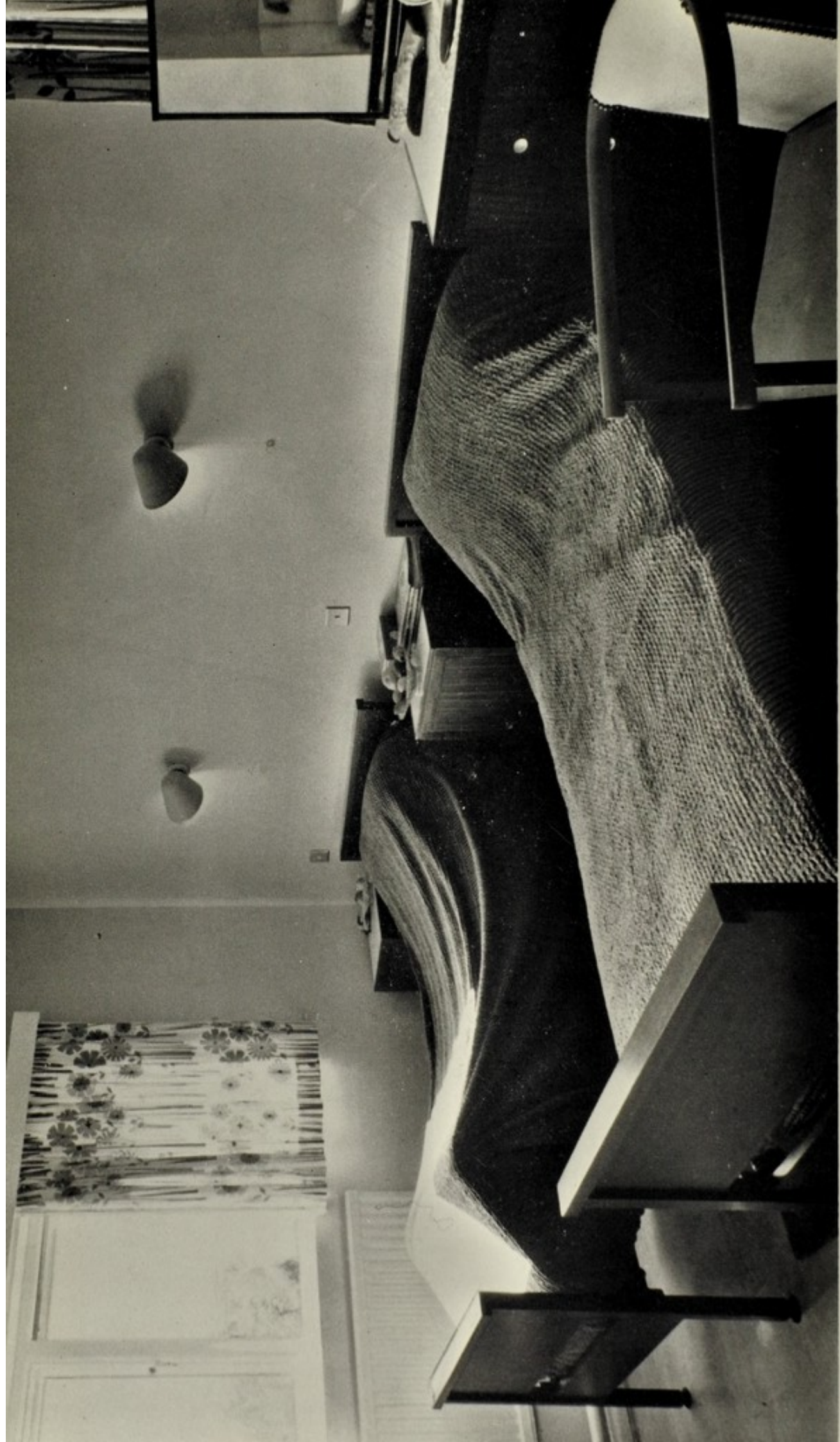
"MORFA AFAN"—LOUNGE



"MORFA AFAN"—QUIET ROOM



"TREM-Y-MOR", BETTWS



"TREM-Y-MOR"—TWIN BEDDED ROOM

PART II

"THEN, AS TIME GOES ON . . . this toll of defect and injury will happen to those who once were whole, who once enjoyed sight and sound and movement. All that can be done for them—and it may be a good deal—is to mitigate the condition itself, to help them and their families to face the shock and the major adjustments which may sometimes be needed, to supply contrivances in the home and outside it, together with such employment and interest as are possible."

FROM: THE YOUNGHUSBAND REPORT

THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSON

The County Welfare Services for the disabled have continued to develop satisfactorily in line with current thinking on social welfare. The Authority has recognised that, in establishing a unified visiting service embracing all disabled persons, much could be done to eliminate wasteful administration and that specially designed transport had an important part to play in recalling to a more normal life those whose lot it has been to be confined to their homes by the extreme severity of their disability.

I am pleased to report that these aspects of your welfare service have continued to advance in accordance with the Ten-Year Plan. Particularly gratifying have been the results achieved through the use of the purpose-designed vehicles and to which later reference is made.

A further step in the integration of Social Centres was taken in the last quarter of the year by the opening of the existing Centre for the Handicapped at Seven Sisters to all categories of disablement. The original experiment of this nature had been the combining of Centre operations carried out at Resolven; the second move has so far justified the hopes held for it in providing a more effective Centre for the disabled living in the Dulais Valley. A general integration of now separated Social Centres will probably become the norm when Centres established under the Ten-Year Plan come into operation, and to which reference is now made.

Ten-Year Plan

The Table which follows outlines your current proposals for Centres for the Handicapped as revised in your review of the Ten-Year Plan. Your revision included the deferment of the Aberdare Centre to 1966/67 and the advance of the Abercynon Centre from 1969/70 to 1967/68. Because of the satisfactory progress made in co-operation with the district authority, the Maesteg project originally planned for 1966/67 was advanced to 1965/66. The Bridgend Centre, already deferred a year to 1966/67, was further deferred to 1970/71 as it was clear that the release of the present Area Office premises—within which building the proposed Centre for Bridgend is to operate—cannot be envisaged in the near future.

Having regard to all the circumstances, I am satisfied that the best progress has been made and the first Centre, that at Caerphilly, will be completed and in operation at the end of September, 1966.

Centres for the Physically Handicapped

<i>Year</i>	<i>Town and Project</i>		
1965/66	Caerphilly	..	Purchase and adaptation of existing premises to full-time Social Centre.
	Neath	..	Purpose-built Social Centre/Rehabilitation Unit.
	Maesteg	..	Purchase of prefabricated building and erection on suitable site as full-time Social Centre.
	Rhondda	..	Purchase of prefabricated building and erection on suitable site as full-time Social Centre. (to serve Rhondda Fach)
1966/67	Aberdare	..	Purchase of prefabricated building and erection on suitable site as full-time Social Centre.
1967/68	Barry	..	Purpose-built Social Centre/Rehabilitation Unit.
	Abercynon	..	Purchase of prefabricated building and erection on suitable site as full-time Social Centre.
1968/69	Rhondda	..	Purpose-built Social Centre/Rehabilitation Unit. (to serve Rhondda Fawr)
	Bargoed	..	Purchase of prefabricated building and erection on suitable site as full-time Social Centre.
1969/70	Pontardawe	..	Purchase of prefabricated building and erection on suitable site as full-time Social Centre.
	Port Talbot	..	do. do.

Centres for the Physically Handicapped

<i>Year</i>	<i>Town and Project</i>		
1970/71	Gorseinon ..	Purchase of prefabricated building and erection on suitable site as full-time Social Centre.	
	Bridgend ..	Conversion of Area Office, Quarella Road, into full-time Social Centre/ Rehabilitation Unit.	
1971/76	Penarth ..	Purchase of prefabricated building and erection on suitable site as full-time Social Centre.	
	Ogmore and Garw Valleys	do.	do.

REGISTRATION OF THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Registration

The total number of persons in the six disability groups of the Glamorgan County Register at 31st March, 1966 are shown in the following Table.

Category	POSITION AT 31ST MARCH, 1966			POSITION AS AT 31ST MARCH 1965	See Appendix Tables
	Number of Physically Handicapped Persons (i.e. Caseload)	Plus Dual Registrations	Number on Register	Number on Register	
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Generally Handicapped ..	5,143	167	5,310	5,463	I, II, IIIa & b
Hard of Hearing	223	205	428	470	IIIb
Deaf with Speech	46	28	74	75	IIIb
Deaf without Speech ..	210	6	216	243	IIIb
Blind	2,163	140	2,303	2,170	IV, V, VIII, IX
Partially Sighted	813	66	879	842	X, XI, XII
TOTALS	8,598	612	9,210	9,263	

NOTE.—Figures include those of Rhondda Borough Council.

From the first three columns of the Table, it will be noted that a number of persons registered have more than one disability and a distinction is, therefore, drawn between the numbers of registered according to a particular disability and the total number of individuals involved. Comparison of columns (c) and (d) shows the net increase or decrease in registration as between the commencement and end of the period under review. Column (e) shows the appropriate references to the Tables in the Appendix which provides wider information supporting the summarised statistics. Table I of the Appendix gives, by geographic classification, comparative Tables of the first four registers, i.e. all handicapped other than blind and partially sighted, contrasted with figures for previous years. Table II shows the age-distribution of such persons.

Table IIIa sets out the broad classification of the Register of generally handicapped in terms of main disabilities and the trend of registration by disability will be noted. The subsidiary Table IIIb provides a more detailed analysis and incorporates statistics relating to the deaf (with and without speech) and hard of hearing. The medical groupings used in these tables are similar to those used by the Ministry of Labour.

For the blind and partially sighted, Tables IV and X analyse similar figures into age groups, sex, etc., on the lines submitted annually to the Ministry of Health. Table V reveals that 69.4 per cent of the 340 blind persons registered for the first time this year were over 70 years of age.

The determination of blindness or partial sight continues to be the responsibility of the County Medical Officer who, in cases of suspected blindness, arranges for examination by a member of his staff or by a consultant ophthalmologist if necessary. Administrative work undertaken by the County Medical Officer as School Medical Officer in relation to the education of blind children is given in Table VIII in the Appendix. Table IX relates to blind persons over the age of 16 who are not living at home.

Tables XI and XII provide additional information in respect of the partially sighted.

Trends of Registration

It will be seen from the Table that for the year ending 31st March, 1966, there was a total net decrease of 53 disabled registrations in the six registers. The comparable figures for the two previous years were increases of 404 and 146 respectively. A net decrease of 153 registrations is recorded for the general handicapped; 42 for the hard of hearing; a decrease of one for those deaf with speech and a decrease of 27 for those deaf persons without speech. For the blind and partially sighted registrations there were increases of 133 and 35 respectively as compared with increases of 62 and 86 in the previous year. The net changes in registration for all registers are within normal limits, although the overall net decrease this year is without precedent. In the last report, it will be

remembered that the view was expressed that, in respect of aural defects, an equilibrium would shortly be reached and this seems imminent: it would be premature, however, to suggest that, similarly, an equilibrium has been reached in respect of registrations for the physically handicapped other than blind and partially sighted.

Of the 2,303 blind registrations, 140 are shown as having other disabilities and, of the persons so registered, the great majority are aged and continue to receive special care and attention from the visiting officers.

VISITATION SERVICE

Establishment of Social Welfare Officers

For the two years ended 31st March, 1966, the establishment of Social Welfare Officers engaged in welfare work for the disabled continued unchanged at fifty posts. Twenty-two of these posts are reserved to officers who are qualified as Home Teachers of the Blind and 28 as Social Welfare Officers for the Handicapped, two Officers in the latter category devoting their full time to the welfare of the deaf and hard of hearing. Since visitation of the deaf is a specialised and time-consuming function and, because the majority of deaf people are in employment, social activities generally take place in the evenings. For this, and other reasons associated with communication, services for the deaf have not been fused with those provided for the blind and otherwise handicapped. The Table on Page 43 gives further details.

The Tables on Pages 38 to 42 show the caseloads of individual Social Welfare Officers which, as mentioned above, embrace all disabilities except deafness.

CASELOADS OF SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICERS AT 31st MARCH, 1966

Area	District No.	Details of District	Social Welfare Officer	CASE LOAD			Responsible for
				Blind and P.S.	Generally Handicapped	Total	
WEST GLAMORGAN	1	Gower and part Llchwyr U.D.C.	Mr. R. P. Ireland (car)	87	105	192	Gorseinon Generally Handicapped Centre
	2	Part Llchwyr U.D.C. and Garnswllt	Mr. S. James (car)	71	96	167	Gorseinon Blind Centre
	3	Pontardawe R.D.C. (West)	Vacancy	87	97	184	Pontardawe Blind Centre
	4	Pontardawe R.D.C. (East)	Mr. P. D. Guard	71	131	202	Pontardawe Generally Handicapped Centre
	5	Neath (part) and Dulais Valley	Mr. H. Kent (car)	52	118	170	Seven Sisters Generally Handicapped Centre
	6	Neath (part) and Vale of Neath	Mrs. V. Rowlands	53	90	143	Resolven Joint Blind and Handicapped Centre
	7	Neath (part) and Skewen	Miss Mayville Jones	71	83	154	Neath Blind Centre
	8	Neath (part) and Briton Ferry	Mrs. F. M. Leach	71	79	150	Briton Ferry Blind Centre
	9	Neath (part) and Neath R.D.C. (part)	Miss M. Harries	61	78	139	Neath Generally Handicapped Centre
TOTALS ..				624	877	1,501	

Area	District No.	Details of District	Social Welfare Officer	CASE LOAD			Responsible for
				Blind and P.S.	Generally Handicapped	Total	
CENTRAL GLAMORGAN	1	Baglan, Bryn and Afan Valley	Vacancy	51	121	172	Port Talbot Generally Handicapped Centre
	2	Port Talbot	Mr. T. Bird	87	112	199	Port Talbot Blind Centre
	3	Aberavon	Mr. D. T. Brace	68	112	180	—
	4	Porthcawl, Kenfig Hill	Mrs. Iris Jones	83	104	187	Bridgend Generally Handicapped Centre
	5	Maesteg U.D.C. (West of Llynfi)	Miss M. Davies (Course 1965/67)	81	110	191	Maesteg Blind Centre
	6	Maesteg U.D.C. (East of Llynfi), Tondy, Coytrahen	Mr. A. L. Day	72	119	191	Maesteg Generally Handicapped Centre
	7	Bridgend—Laleston	Miss P. M. Tromans	86	119	205	—
	8	Garw Valley, Brynmenyn	Miss W. Lewis (Course 1964/66)	32	118	150	Llangeinor Blind Centre
	9	Ogmore Valley and Pencoed	Mr. M. Murphy	62	98	160	Pontycymmer Generally Handicapped Centre
	10	Vale of Glamorgan, Aberkenfig, Sarn, Bryncethin, Blackmill, Evans-town	Mrs. N. Jones (car)	61	77	138	Bridgend Blind Centre
TOTALS				683	1,090	1,773	

CASELOADS OF SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICERS AT 31st MARCH, 1966

Area	District No.	Details of District	Social Welfare Officer	CASE LOAD			Responsible for
				Blind and P.S.	Generally Handicapped	Total	
NORTH EAST GLAMORGAN	1	Hirwaun, Penywaun, Cwmdare, Tre-cynon	Mr. G. E. R. Williams (car)	42	130	172	Aberdare Social Centre for Handicapped Persons
	2	Tegfan Home, Llwydcoed, Gadlys, Aberdare, Abernant, Cwmbach	Mr. W. M. Lucas	75	99	174	Aberdare Blind Centre
	3	Aberaman, Godreaman, Cwmaman	Mr. B. Bond (Course 1965/67)	63	113	176	Penrhiwceiber Social Centre for Handicapped Persons
	4	Abercwmboi, Mountain Ash, Perth-celyn, Caegarw, Cefn Pennar	Mr. T. J. John	48	104	152	Mountain Ash Blind Centre
	5	Miskin, Penrhiwceiber, Tynetown, Ynysboeth	Mrs. P. Vallis	49	112	161	Abercynon Blind Centre
	6	Abercynon, Bedlinog, Trelewis, Nelson, Tredomen, Brynmynach	Mr. L. A. Jones	53	127	180	Nelson Social Handicraft Centre for Handicapped Persons
	7	Butetown, Pontlottyn, Troedrhifwuch, Tirphil, Brithdir, Bargoed, Deri, Fochriw	Mr. H. O. Hughes	74	133	207	Bargoed Blind Centre and the Bargoed Joint Blind/Handicapped Persons Handicraft Centre for Handicapped Persons
	8	Ystrad Mynach, Pengam, Cascade, Gelligaer, Penybryn, Cefn Hengoed, Hengoed, Tiryberth, Gilfach	Vacancy—G.H.	53	96	149	Bargoed Social Handicraft Centre for Handicapped Persons
	9	Eglwysilan, Senghennydd, Abertridwr, Penyrheol, Treceynydd, Bryncenydd, Nantgarw, Taff's Well	Mr. E. G. Williams	55	136	191	Caerphilly Social Handicraft Centre for Handicapped Persons
	10	Llanbradach, Pwllypant, Energlyn, Caerphilly, Machen, Rudry	Mr. R. Matthews (car)	62	128	190	Caerphilly Blind Centre
	11	Pontypridd—East and Centre	Miss F. Newman	40	96	136	Pontypridd Generally Handicapped Centre
	12	Ynysybwl and Pontypridd West	Mrs. A. X. Davies (car)	54	101	155	Pontypridd Blind and Handicrafts Centres
	13	South Pontypridd	Mrs. W. Robinson	51	140	191	—
TOTALS ..				719	1,515	2,234	

Area	District No.	Details of District	Social Welfare Officer	CASE LOAD			Responsible for
				Blind and P.S.	Generally Handicapped	Total	
	1	Cowbridge, Cowbridge R.D.C., Part of Cardiff R.D.C.	Mr. A. J. Teague	51	89	140	—
	2	Barry (West of Tynwydd Road)	Mr. A. Harding (car)	62	93	155	Barry Generally Handicapped Centre
	3	Barry (East of Tynwydd Road)	Vacancy—B	77	93	170	Barry Blind and Barry Craft Centre
	4	Penarth (West)	Mr. C. Robinson (car)	89	80	169	Penarth and Whitchurch Blind Centres
	5	Penarth (East) and Part Cardiff R.D.C.	Mr. N. W. Evans (car)	25	141	166	Penarth Generally Handicapped Centre
	6	Whitchurch, Radyr, Llanishen, Llantrisant, Pontyclun, Beddau, Church Village	Mr. J. E. F. Owen (car)	24	106	130	Whitchurch Generally Handicapped Centre
	7	Tonyrefail, Giffach Goch, (less Evans-town) Penrhiwfer	Mrs. S. Grace (car)	44	159	203	Pontyclun Generally Handicapped Centre
	8		Mr. P. J. Lewis (Course 1964/66)	49	155	204	Tonyrefail Generally Handicapped Centre
TOTALS ..				421	916	1,337	

CASELOADS OF SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICERS AT 31st MARCH, 1966

Delegated District	District No.	Details of District	Social Welfare Officer	CASE LOAD			Responsible for
				Blind and P.S.	Generally Handicapped	Total	
4 RHONDDA BOROUGH	1	Blaenrhondda, Blaencwm, Treherbert, Treorchy to Cardiff Arms	Mr. A. J. Wright	66	114	180	Ynyswen Centre for Generally Handicapped
	2	Treorchy (from Cardiff Arms), Cwmparc, Pentre	Mr. E. M. Jones	71	80	151	Ynyswen Blind Centre Porth Blind Centre
	3	Ton Pentre, Gelli, Ystrad	Mrs. G. Williams	61	106	167	Maes-yr-Haf Centre for Generally Handicapped
	4	Llwynypia, Trealaw	Mr. D. G. Timmons	66	95	161	—
	5	Tonypandy, Clydach Vale, part of Penygraig	Mr. I. Jones	60	117	177	—
	6	Dinas, Porth (excluding Mount Pleasant) Cymmer, Trehafod, Trehanog, Williamstown, Penrhiwfer, Edmundstown	Mr. T. T. John (car)	91	99	190	Y.M.C.A. Porth Centre for Generally Handicapped
	7	Tylorstown, Pontygwaith, Stanleytown, Wattstown, Ynyshir, Porth (Mount Pleasant)	Mr. R. Morgan	58	131	189	Maerdy Centre for Generally Handicapped
	8	Maerdy, Ferndale, Blaenllechau	Mr. R. Searle	57	142	199	—
	9	—	Vacancy	—	—	—	—
	10	—	Mrs. E. Evans	—	—	—	—
	11	—	Vacancy	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..				530	884	1,414	

Social Welfare Officer (Deaf)	Hard of Hearing	Deaf with Speech	Deaf without Speech	Total	Area	Responsible for Social Centres at
1. Mr. I. Martin	6	4	45	55	West Glamorgan	Aberdare and Briton Ferry
	9	13	16	38	North East	
	3	8	50	61	Central	
2. Mr. P. Dalladay	9	8	55	72	North East	Caerphilly and Treorchy
	43	5	21	69	South East*	
	14	7	33	54	Rhondda	
TOTAL				349		

* The Barry Hard of Hearing Centre is supervised by the Technical Assistant for the Deaf, Mr. D. M. Evans.

* The Barry Hard of Hearing Centre is supervised by the
Technical Assistant for the Deaf, Mrs. D. M. Evans.

CASE LOAD SUMMARY BY QUARTERS

AREA	31/3/65	30/6/65	30/9/65	31/12/65	31/3/66
North East Glamorgan		2,214	2,190	2,207	2,234
West Glamorgan	6,693	1,534	1,536	1,512	1,501
Central Glamorgan		1,679	1,710	1,730	1,773
South East Glamorgan		1,278	1,302	1,325	1,337
Rhondda	1,579	1,589	1,460	1,383	1,414
Deaf Visitors	349	348	350	356	339
Overall TOTAL	8,621	8,642	8,548	8,513	8,598

The caseload summary shown in the Table on Page 44 illustrates the detail trends of the registers already referred to, and the possibility that the services for the deaf may have reached an equilibrium.

Home Visiting Service

A vital feature of your Welfare Services is the visiting of disabled persons in their homes, particularly those who are housebound or confined to their beds. This has continued at a satisfactory level, despite staffing difficulties and the limitation imposed by training requirements. All disabled persons are to some degree beset by loneliness, a tendency to introversion and the sheer physical inability to move far, or at a normal speed, and it is through the regular visiting of friendly and experienced Social Welfare Officers that such disadvantages are to some degree alleviated. In the year ending 31st March, 1966, 31,558 visits have been made and the Tables on Pages 38 to 43 show by area the disposition of the services and their relevant details.

A Table, although of importance statistically, provides little insight to the quality and variety of work carried out by Social Welfare Officers. Inevitably in visitation there is much that appears trivial, but all visitation is important to the handicapped person and it is out of this relationship that social problems are discovered.

Social Welfare Officers perforce must have an abundance of tact, sympathy and a very wide knowledge of the statutory, voluntary and unofficial services available to physically handicapped people; some of the benefits of such a Visiting Service are reflected in the following letter received in December last:—

“ . . . Enclosed is receipt for the knitting wool (1-lb.), which I received on Wednesday. Thank you very much for the initial free issue of handicraft materials. I am very pleased with it and also very grateful to you for your kindness, not only with this, but with everything else: the ambulance bus which takes us down the Welfare Centre on Thursday afternoon, and the very happy times we have there. Everyone is so kind. It is also a lesson in thankfulness to go to these places as we always meet someone worse off than ourselves.

Wishing you a Very Happy Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous 1966. . . .

Another letter received from the son of a deceased blind lady, reads:—

“ As you may now be aware, Mrs. M.A.P. of the above address, has passed away.

I feel that we, her family, should try at least to express our gratefulness and thanks for the care and comforts that your Welfare Services bestowed upon her in her infirmity. She received the fullest enjoyment from the radio and the Talking Book, and from many other pleasures, particularly the understanding efficiency of your visiting staff for which we do give special thanks.”

A selection of extracts from reports received from field officers during the year is set out below and gives some indication of the wide variety of problems met with during visitation and the action taken to resolve them:—

“ In my last report I referred to my endeavours to find suitable accommodation for a young deaf person (DD.46) and his wife, who, unfortunately, had no capital and were too young to obtain a mortgage. I am now very pleased to report that, through my good relationship with the parents of another deaf person, who have now returned to Italy, I have been able to obtain the tenancy of their house for the young couple. They have now been in residence there for some weeks and have settled in quite happily. They had been living in overcrowded conditions with the girl's mother and the young man had a long journey to and from his employment, paying 18/-d. per week in 'bus fares. He is now able to walk to work from his present home and is able to offset his rent by the amount he previously paid in 'bus fares.”

“ Assistance has been given to persons wishing to vote by post in the General Election.

Arrangements have been made for three young physically handicapped persons to spend an educational holiday at the Summer School of the Youth Association to be held at Kilvrough Manor, Swansea, and at another venue near Bradford, Yorkshire.”

“ I have given a considerable amount of help during this quarter to both blind and handicapped folk. I have done a great deal of shopping—made visits to the Deaf-Aid Clinic, Health Department, Ministry of National Insurance and W.V.S. Calls for mackintosh sheets, bed pans, white sticks, batteries, dominoes, etc., have been attended to. Mr. C. (B.5724), a blind man, has been to London three times lately and I have seen to most of his arrangements. Parcels of fruit, etc., were given to home-bound blind persons. These parcels are always appreciated.”

“ Miss P., 63, who is deaf and blind, receives weekly visits from me and, once a month, the Vicar of the parish takes Holy Communion to her with my assistance.”

“ During the quarter, visits have been made to an Optician on behalf of a blind person; the Housing Manager regarding a flat for an elderly blind person (B.6220) who lives in a very damp large house; the National Assistance Board for three handicapped persons; the Home Help Supervisor on behalf of three blind persons; the Borough Engineer for a stair-rail for a very young handicapped person (H.8695) and an older handicapped person for minor adaptations to the toilet (H.1980).”

" H.7435—This teenage girl is a patient at the Chalfont Epileptic Colony where she is making good progress. It is likely that she will be able to return home within the next twelve months. The home itself is most comfortable and the parents are extremely anxious for their daughter to return but their attitude and behaviour towards the girl has been so over-indulgent that I have had to spend a great deal of time discussing with the parents the need for them to introduce more discipline into their relationships with their daughter.

H.3172—This handicapped person is also a patient at the Chalfont Epileptic Colony. In this instance, he has no permanent home but his niece and her husband are prepared to offer him accommodation in their council flat. These young people are not fully aware of the difficulties and problems likely to arise from taking the uncle into their home. I have spent considerable time in discussing the case with this young couple.

H.7270—This young lady was admitted to Chalfont Epileptic Colony in September. She had been living with her married sister and family following the death of her parents. Her employment record shows that she has been unable to cope with work; her social life has been severely affected and she has suffered acute bouts of depression. I discussed the case with the general practitioner and, after very lengthy conversations with the client, arrangements were completed for her admission to Chalfont."

" Miss C.M. (RH.1746) is suffering from rheumatoid arthritis and from a nervous complaint. On the evening of 17th March, I received a telephone message for an urgent visit to be made to this person, as a quarrel had occurred between her and her neighbour. Miss M. who lives alone, is extremely lonely and is continually in trouble with the Electricity Board, Gas Board and National Assistance Board. Frequent visits have to be made for she needs continual guidance and friendship. She is extremely grateful for my visits."

" H.8124—a young woman of 34 years, married with one child, is suffering from multiple sclerosis. At present she is able to perform some of her household duties and, with the assistance of the Home Help Service, she is able to run her home. Unfortunately, her sight is deteriorating and she is unable to read or see the television screen. She is not keen on handicrafts and, as it is felt that it would be unwise to teach her braille, arrangements are being made to supply her with a Talking Book. It is hoped that she will agree to attend the Social Centre but, at present, she is not interested. It is evident that she suffers from lack of company of women of her own age and as she is of a very independent character it looks as if it will be difficult to persuade her to join in any social activities."

"It was ascertained that M.B. (H.8469), who suffers from paralysis of lower limbs, runs a taxi service and his car had to be converted to hand controls because of his disability. In view of this, it was felt that he was probably eligible for the tax concession granted to disabled drivers and also to a car conversion grant. During my conversation with Mr. B. he informed me that he had been seen recently by a consultant. I contacted the consultant and he agreed to send me a note confirming that it was necessary for Mr. B. to have his car converted to hand controls. This was sent to the Welsh Board of Health. It is understood that Mr. B. has now been examined by a doctor employed by that authority and it appears that he will be eligible for a car conversion grant and, of course, to the tax exemption."

"B.4595—an elderly blind lady who lives alone, was worried about the increase in her rates. I contacted the National Assistance Board who have granted the increased amount.

B.900—this blind man, aged 34, is also physically handicapped and unable to wash or dress himself unaided. His mother has recently been encouraged to help him become more independent and let him try to do small jobs for himself. After a discussion with me, an electric razor has been purchased through the Royal National Institute for the Blind and he is now able to shave himself unaided."

"H.7156 and B.3262—this handicapped lady, aged 38, lives with her blind grandmother, aged 87, in a privately rented house. The former has been a patient in hospital frequently during the past two years, has a collapsed lung and suffers from chronic asthma. She has been advised by her specialist to move away from the area to somewhere nearby where the air is purer. Her grandmother has been very ill recently; if she dies, the grand-daughter will have no home as the tenancy cannot be passed on to her. After several discussions between the family, their doctor and myself, the handicapped person has now applied for a council flat and this is being given sympathetic consideration by the Housing Committee, whose decision is at present awaited. . . ."

The final extract, taken from a Social Welfare Officer's report and although of apparent simplicity and calling for no great professional expertise, does confirm the necessity for regular visitation by skilled and sympathetic officers. I am sorry to record that this lady has since been found to be certifiably blind:

"PS.2198—This partially sighted lady was concerned because both lens of her spectacles were scratched. The optician who had provided these spectacles several years before had said that he could do no more for her and there would, therefore, be no point in her visiting him again. She had accepted this statement quite

literally and, though the scratched surfaces were interfering with her limited vision, did not like to return to him. I made an appointment for her with another optician who later contacted me and asked for my co-operation in obtaining for, and encouraging her to use, a table lamp behind her shoulder when reading. Even the small torch, used in the ophthalmic test directed on the lines of print on the testing frame, enabled her to read two sizes of print smaller than she could read without the light. The optician felt that this amount of vision would only be present for two years at the most, so that every help should be given her in using it to the full advantage. He was reluctant, however, to mention to her personally that the use of a table lamp would be the best visual aid for her. Not knowing her circumstances, he suspected that he might be asking her to obtain the moon. I found her son to be most co-operative and he provided her with the lamp. . . ."

SOCIAL HANDICRAFT CENTRES

Social/Handicraft Centres—General

In the period under review, the number of Social Centres provided for the physically handicapped in the Administrative County remained constant for the third year in succession: twenty-four for the blind and partially sighted; twenty-five for the generally handicapped and five for the deaf and hard of hearing. The figures include the monthly meeting arranged for the Deaf/Blind at Holly House, Pontypridd. Details of the Centres, weekly attendances, times of opening, etc., are given on pages 50 to 54.

It will be remembered that, although an integrated visiting service has now been in operation for nearly two years, no general merging of the centres for the blind, the handicapped and the deaf has taken place. The first experiment of this nature has, however, been successfully operated at Resolven for several years and, in the last months of the period under review, an experiment was similarly organised whereby the blind of the area were invited to participate in the facilities provided for physically handicapped at the Seven Sisters Centre; the attendance by blind persons is so far small but it is believed that a greater number of blind persons unable to attend the Neath Centre because of the distance will find it possible to attend the more accessible centre at Seven Sisters and benefit thereby.

The Port Talbot Centre for the handicapped has continued its full-day sessions and the table shows that there has been an increase in average attendance from 38 to 41 members per week.

Most centres have a planned programme of activities, outings, entertainments, film shows, talks and discussions, occupational craftwork, etc., in the organisation of which the local centre committee plays a part under the guidance of your officers.

SOCIAL/HANDICRAFT CENTRES FOR THE HANDICAPPED, 1966

Area	Centre	Venue	Afternoon	Social Welfare Officer	Average Weekly Attendance	
					1964/65	1965/66
NORTH EAST GLAMORGAN	Aberdare	Blaengwawr Boys' Club	Friday 2.0 p.m.	Mr. G. Williams	47	54
	Penrhiwceiber	Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Duffryn Rd., Mountain Ash	Monday 2.0 p.m.	Vacancy	31	37
	Caerphilly	Station Terrace	Tuesday 1.30 p.m.	Mr. E. G. Williams	32	27
	Bargoed	Bargoed Institute and Library	Wednesday 1.30 p.m.	Vacancy	14	23
	Nelson	Wingfield (Old People's Hall)	Thursday 1.30 p.m.	Mr. L. A. Jones	28	34
CENTRAL GLAMORGAN	Pontypridd	Holly House, 98 Merthyr Road	Thursday 2. 0 p.m.	Miss F. Newman	35	38
	Bridgend	Y.M.C.A., Angel Street	Thursday 2. 0 p.m.	Mrs. I. Jones	36	35
	Maesteg	St. John Ambulance Hall	Tuesday 2. 0 p.m.	Mr. A. L. Day	44	43
	Pontycymmer	53/55 Oxford Street	Monday 2. 0 p.m.	Mr. M. Murphy	28	28
	Port Talbot	Y.M.C.A., Talbot Road	Tuesday 10.0 a.m.	Vacancy	38	41
SOUTH EAST GLAMORGAN	Barry	Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road	Thursday 2. 0 p.m.	Mr. A. Harding	34	32
	Penarth	Christchurch Congregational Church, Stanwell Road	Wednesday 2. 0 p.m.	Mr. N. W. Evans	35	33
	Whitechurch	Church Parlour, Wesleyan Church	Friday 2. 0 p.m.	Mr. J. E. F. Owen	24	29
	Pontyclun	Welfare Hall	Thursday 2. 0 p.m.	Mrs. S. Grace	32	31
	Tonyrefail	St. John Ambulance Hall	Monday 2. 0 p.m.	Vacancy	28	35
WEST GLAMORGAN	Seven Sisters	Pantyyffordd Community Hall	Wednesday 1. 0 p.m.	Mr. H. Kent	28	29*
	Neath	Moose Hall, Water Street	Wednesday 1. 0 p.m.	Miss M. Harries	39	36
	Pontardawe	Moose Hall	Monday 1. 0 p.m.	Mr. P. D. Guard	36	42
	Resolven	St. John Ambulance Hall	Thursday 1. 0 p.m.	Mrs. V. Rowlands	24*	27*
	Gorseinon	British Legion Hall, New Lodge, Alexandra Road	Friday 1. 0 p.m.	Mr. R. Ireland	40	46
RHONDDA BOROUGH COUNCIL	Trealaw	Maes-yr-Haf Education Settlement	Wednesday 2. 0 p.m.	Mrs. G. Williams	24	31
	Porth	Y.M.C.A., Porth	Thursday 2. 0 p.m.	Mr. T. T. John	23	33
	Maerdy	Workmen's Hall and Institute	Thursday 2. 0 p.m.	Mr. R. Morgan	36	38
	Treorchy	Ynyswen Social Welfare Hall	Tuesday 2. 0 p.m.	Mr. A. J. Wright	33	30
	Porth Dancing Class 1965	Old People's Social Centre	Tuesday 7. 0 p.m.	Social Welfare Officers in turn 1965	25	25

SOCIAL/HANDICRAFT CENTRES FOR THE BLIND, 1966

Area	Town	Venue	Day and Time	Social Welfare Officer	Activities	Average Attendance of Blind Persons and Guides	
						1964/1965	1965/1966
NORTH EAST GLAMORGAN: ABERDARE	Abercynon	Social Hall, Margaret Street	Thursday 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. P. Vallis	Social and Handicrafts	19	16
	Aberdare	Social Centre for the Blind, 35 Victoria Square	Tuesday 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. P. Vallis	Social and Handicrafts	32	26
	Mountain Ash	Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Duffryn Rd., Mountain Ash	Wednesday 2.30 p.m.	Mr. T. J. John	Social and Handicrafts	19	21
	Caerphilly	Station Terrace	Thursday 2.30 p.m.	Mr. R. Matthews	Social and Handicrafts	43	43
NORTH EAST GLAMORGAN: PONTYPRIDD AND CAERPHILLY	Bargoed	Bargoed Institute and Library, Cardiff Road	Tuesday 2.30 p.m. Wednesday 2.0 p.m.	Mr. R. Matthews Mr. H. O. Hughes	Social Handicrafts	57 17	46 10
	Pontypridd	Holly House, 98 Merthyr Road	Tuesday 2.30 p.m. (Open Monday to Friday 2-9 p.m.)	Mrs. A. X. Davies	Social	39	38
	Pontypridd	Holly House, 98 Merthyr Road	Monday 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. A. X. Davies	Handicrafts	12	11
	Pontypridd	Holly House, 98 Merthyr Road	Wednesday Monthly	Miss M. D. Smith	Social and Handicrafts	16	20

SOCIAL/HANDICRAFT CENTRES FOR THE BLIND, 1966—continued

Area	Town	Venue	Day and Time	Social Welfare Officer	Activities	Average Attendance of Blind Persons and Guides	
						1964/1965	1965/1966
CENTRAL GLAMORGAN	Llangeinor	St. John Ambulance Hall	Wednesday 2.30 p.m.	Miss W. Lewis	Social	20	23
	Maesteg	St. John Ambulance Hall, Zoar Place, Maesteg	Thursday 2.30 p.m.	Miss. W. Lewis	Social and Handicrafts	46	47
	Bridgend	Y.M.C.A., Angel Street	Monday 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. N. Jones	Social and Handicrafts	41	46
	Port Talbot	Y.M.C.A., Talbot Road, Port Talbot	Monday 2.30 p.m.	Mr. T. Bird	Social and Handicrafts	34	25
			Tuesday 2.0 p.m.	Mr. C. Robinson	Social	55	54
SOUTH EAST GLAMORGAN	Barry	Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road	Friday 2.0 p.m.	Mrs. S. Grace	Handicrafts	22	15
	Penarth	Christchurch Congregational Church, Stanwell Road	Friday 2.30 p.m.	Mr. C. Robinson	Social and Handicrafts	34	36
	Whitchurch	Ararat Baptist Church School- room, The Common	Thursday 2.30 p.m.	Mr. C. Robinson	Social and Handicrafts	32	33
	Briton Ferry	The Social Institute	Wednesday 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. F. M. Leach	Social and Handicrafts	20	15
	Neath	Moose Hall	Monday 2.30 p.m.	Miss Mayville Jones	Social and Handicrafts	44	44
WEST GLAMORGAN	Resolven	St. John Ambulance Hall	Thursday 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. V. Rowlands	Social and Handicrafts	23*	27*
	Pontardawe	Moose Hall	Wednesday 2.30 p.m.	Vacancy	Social and Handicrafts	31	33
	Gorseinon	British Legion Hall, Alexandra Road	Thursday 2.30 p.m.	Mr. S. James	Social and Handicrafts	24	27

* Joint Centre with Handicapped

SOCIAL/HANDICRAFT CENTRES FOR THE BLIND, 1966—continued

	Town	Venue	Day and Time	Social Welfare Officer	Activities	Average Attendance of Blind Persons and Guides	
						1964/1965	1965/1966
RHONDDA BOROUGH	Porth	Porth and District Old People's Social Centre	Tuesday 2.30 p.m.	Mr. E. Jones	Social	36	35
	Porth	Porth and District Old People's Social Centre	Tuesday 7.0 p.m.	Social Welfare Officers in turn	Dancing	25	25
	Porth	Porth and District Old People's Social Centre	Friday 2.0 p.m.	Mr. E. Jones	Handicrafts	27	31
	Treorchy	Ynyswen Social Welfare Hall	Wednesday 2.0 p.m.	Mr. E. Jones	Social	34	35

SOCIAL CENTRES FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

Area	Town	Venue	Evening	Social Welfare Officer	Average Weekly Attendance	
					1964/65	1965/66
NORTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Caerphilly	Station Terrace	Thursday, 6-9 p.m.	Mr. P. Dalladay	20	21
	Aberdare	Blaengwawr Boys' Club	Thursday, 8-10 p.m.	Mr. I. Martin	10	11
SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Barry Hard of Hearing	Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road	Tuesday, 7-9 p.m.	Mrs. D. M. Evans	33	35
WEST GLAMORGAN	Briton Ferry	Social Institute, Neath Road	Tuesday, 6.30-9.30 p.m.	Mr. I. Martin	23	25
RHONDDA BOROUGH COUNCIL	Treorchy	Park and Dare Institute	Monday, 6-9.15 p.m.	Mr. P. Dalladay	15	18

Holly House, Pontypridd, at the time of writing still the only full-time centre, continues to operate successfully not only for blind persons living in the locality but also in providing craft-work for registered handicapped persons living nearby. The monthly meetings arranged for the deaf/blind of the administrative County are held at this Centre.

In the year under review, £1,769 was spent on travelling expenses of handicapped persons and necessary escorts, and £1,495 on blind and partially sighted persons and their guides attending the centres.

The extracts from reports which are set out below confirm that the Social Handicraft Centre has become a vital part of the lives of the disabled persons in the areas served. Over the past decade, there has been overall a continuing increase in membership and, more importantly, both a general extension of the range of activities organised and a deepening in the corporate life of the centre as it has become more intimately merged with that of the surrounding community.

“ The Handicraft class for the blind has been held every Monday afternoon: the main craft is cane-work and everyone working hard preparing for Christmas. Every Tuesday a Social Centre is held and, this quarter, we have been fortunate in having distinguished persons in the town to give us talks. A local councillor gave a talk on ‘ Salt ’ which proved very entertaining. Another week an Education Welfare Officer came along and gave an account of the famous Dr. Price; both talks were enjoyed by all who attended.”

"Interest was maintained in the P-. Social Centre for the blind, the average attendance for the quarter being 32. Three Social Centre outings were most successful and were thoroughly appreciated by all. This is an active centre—the ladies occupied with knitting mostly and the men with stool-seating and cane-work. Great interest was shown in the County Blind Welfare Association's Annual Eisteddfod and the centre members were delighted with their numerous successes, especially the first prize in the Choral Competition. . . ."

"I am happy to report that an increase of members and an awakening interest in craft-work has lifted the general tone of the centre. We were fortunate having one of the special 'buses to service the centre and this has meant that new faces and personalities are able to enjoy the centre facilities and to add interest for other centre members. So large was the demand that a rota system has been established for the use of the 'bus. Total membership now exceeds 50 and is growing."

"C-. Deaf Centre: The number of members attending the centre has been well maintained and there is always a crowd. Card games are an attraction for the older members, while the younger ones play table tennis and darts. 'Talking' however is the chief activity of the majority as it is in all centres for the deaf, opportunities for self-expression being almost non-existent elsewhere.

Three or four girl guides from a local group have attended the centre during meetings this quarter to enlarge their knowledge of communication with the deaf to enable them to qualify for the Guide's 'Friends of the Deaf' Badge.

There is a proposal afoot to make a weekend trip to Blackpool next Autumn to view the illuminations as was undertaken by the centre some years ago. To help those who feel they would like to go and wish to save by instalments, a savings club has been started. . . ."

"From the 11th to 18th September, 28 members of the handicapped centre spent a very happy holiday at Paignton, Devon. The party comprised male and female members, some of whom are severely disabled and confined to wheelchairs. Members paid their own expenses for this holiday, having saved every week at centre meetings for the preceding year. Every day an outing was arranged and the party left the hotel door for destinations such as Brixham, Plymouth, Dawlish and Torquay. An evening trip was also arranged combining a coach and boat trip. One male member who has been chairborne since childhood remarked that it was the very first time he had been on a boat. Several of these severely disabled persons had not spent a holiday for many years and some had never stayed at a seaside hotel."

"M-. Social Centre for the blind is well attended, with an average of 50 attending. Here there is a great interest in craft-work and there is also a strong canework section. The men also make seagrass stools which are sold to help swell centre funds. Dishcloths are always in good demand and rug-making is also popular."

"P-. Handicapped Centre is continually increasing in membership. All members are very interested in its activities and all contribute to its happy atmosphere. Last month a large number of leek emblems were made and sold by members to make a small profit for the Centre Funds. . . ."

"Craftwork plays an important part in Centre activities and orders are still plentiful for articles produced. These are handbags, dishcloths, aprons, canework baskets and trays, stools assembled and chairs re-covered. All hands are busy and many members are prepared to work at home. The members enjoy their Centre afternoons and their industry provides the wherewithal for them to have outings of their own. . . ."

"There has been a slight increase in the number of handicapped persons attending at both the P. and B. Social/Handicraft Centres during this quarter. The majority of members at these Centres are elderly, and many show no interest at all in handicrafts. However, this does not mean that the Centres do not serve a useful purpose. They help to alleviate loneliness, which many elderly persons experience, and quite a number would be unable to go out-of-doors at all, but for the specially designed vehicle. . . ."

"With increasing numbers attending and visitors from Swansea, Bridgend and Llanelli, this Centre for the Deaf is probably the largest (in terms of members attending) in any district. Last week we had two visitors from Oldham, and, as usual, they were given a most cordial welcome. Games are not much in favour in this Centre, the members much preferring the pleasures of group conversation."

"He is able to walk limited distances with the use of a walking aid and now attends our S/H Centre being conveyed there in the purpose-built coach; before this he would not leave the house for any purpose."

His wife told me that his attendance at the Centre has given him a tremendous uplift, and that he is a far happier man and looks forward to the day the Centre is held with eager anticipation."

A great part of the smooth running of the Social Centres can be attributed to the many voluntary helpers who assist in their working and, once again, I wish to express my most sincere thanks to the many good people whose regular help in such necessary but mundane tasks as preparing refreshments and in assisting disabled persons to go to and from the centres allows Social Welfare Officers to devote themselves fully to their professional work.

Purpose Planned Vehicles

I have already commented generally upon the advance made possible in County welfare services for the disabled by the introduction of purpose planned vehicles and record that the three additional vehicles which you authorised last year were brought into service in the summer of 1965. Their operation has since confirmed the view, if confirmation were needed, that the use of such vehicles is a potent means whereby home-bound persons and others unable to use public transport can be brought nearer to the normality of living previously denied them.

The vehicles, driven and maintained on behalf of the department through the co-operation of the County Ambulance Service, not only provide transport for the severely disabled as described in this report, but are also available to the County Medical Officer's Ambulance Service when they are not required for welfare services purposes.

The table which follows shows the use to which the four vehicles are at present being put:—

WELFARE OF THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PURPOSE-DESIGNED VEHICLES

Vehicle	CENTRES FOR WHICH VEHICLE IS USED				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
No. 1. based at Barry	Pontcymmer (Central)	Maesteg (Central)	Penarth (S.E. Glam.)	Bridgend (Central)	Whitchurch (S.E. Glam.)
No. 2 based at Neath	Pontardawe (West)	Port Talbot (Central)	Neath/Seven Sisters (alt. weeks) (West)	Resolven (West)	Gorseinon (West)
No. 3. based at Trealew	Tonyrefail (S.E. Glam.)	Treorchy (Rhondda)	Trealaw (Rhondda)	Pontypridd (N.E. Glam. Pontypridd)	Porth (Rhondda)
No. 4. based at Caerphilly	Penrhiwceiber (N.E. Glam. Aberdare)	Caerphilly (N.E. Glam. Pontypridd)	Bargoed (N.E. Glam. Pontypridd)	Nelson (N.E. Glam. Pontypridd)	Aberdare (N.E. Glam. Aberdare)

The following brief extracts from reports received speak for themselves:—

“The introduction of the Special ‘Bus to the district in August has made a marked difference to the lives of those who use it, since it is the only day of the week they are able to leave their homes.”

“ Since the Special 'Bus has been used to bring people to the centre, the room has been full to overflowing. Quite recently, on a warm day, there were over 50 handicapped persons present. With the summer months ahead, at least another 12 will be attending.

Those travelling are most appreciative. They are a very happy crowd, joining in all the games, and it is obvious they thoroughly enjoy their afternoon away from their homes.”

“ C-. Social/Handicraft Centre on 29th March were hosts to visitors from P.T.- Centre. Use was made of the special vehicles and, as a result, there was a very full house, including 12 wheelchair cases. There were over 85 people present and entertainment was provided by a small concert party who gave their services freely and most enthusiastically. They were warmly applauded and sent everyone away happy after a sing-song.”

“ This person (H.8430), who is 79 years of age, and suffers from arthritis, has been confined to her home for a number of years. She is now transported every week to the centre and is taking a very active part in craft-work.”

“ Following a normal centre meeting, those severely handicapped persons who are conveyed by the special vehicle were taken to a multiple chain store to complete their Christmas shopping. The Manager of the store had agreed that the best time would be after normal shopping hours and six o'clock was fixed as the time of arrival. The Manager and his staff were on duty and a wonderful time was given to the handicapped, including light refreshments, towards the end of the visit and gifts for all.”

Visits between Centres and Private Centre Outings

A much appreciated provision in your welfare services for physically handicapped members of centres is that of inter-centre visiting; this activity has engendered additionally many private centre outings, the full cost of which is met from centre private funds. These visits have obvious social advantages for the severely disabled, but the resulting exchanges of views also do much to stimulate Centre activities such as craftwork, discussions and other group activities.

The total cost to the department of visits made in the year under review was £117 0s. 0d.

Other Activities at Centres

During the months of June and July, 1,846 blind and partially sighted persons and guides attended 18 summer outings arranged for their benefit, which included visits to Brecon and Builth Wells, the Gower peninsula, and many places on the South Wales coast. These outings cost £1,363. In respect of the Glamorgan journeyworkers at the Morriston Workshops, who attended the outing arranged by the Swansea Authority, the Glamorgan Authority met the expenses incurred, which were £29 8s. 0d.

At Christmas, 1,950 blind and partially sighted and sighted guides attended the Christmas parties arranged in various parts of the county at a cost of £1,176. Seventeen hundred blind and partially sighted persons, who were unable to attend because of ill-health, etc., received a voucher to the value of 10s. 0d. for the purchase of groceries, the vouchers being exchangeable at local shops.

Similarly, during the months of May to July, twenty summer outings at a total cost of £952 were arranged for handicapped persons who attend your Social/Handicraft Centres. Eleven hundred and eighty-three persons, including necessary escorts, participated in the outings to beauty spots and places of interest in South Wales.

Thirteen hundred and seventy physically handicapped persons attended the Christmas parties arranged by the department at a cost of £780. In addition, two hundred and thirty 10s. 0d. grocery vouchers were distributed to registered handicapped persons who had been invited to attend the Christmas parties but were unable to do so by reason of age or infirmity.

The outings and parties were greatly appreciated and many votes of thanks were proposed to the County Council by the disabled participants.

In addition, every registered disabled person, blind or sighted, received a Christmas card expressing your seasonal greetings and good wishes.

General Social Welfare

Very many acts of generosity and assistance have been made by the public and members of various organisations such as Rotary, W.V.S., the Order of St. John and the Red Cross, etc., to the advantage of disabled persons, individually and collectively, and on your behalf I acknowledge them with pleasure and thanks. It is not possible to specify them all individually, but a random selection of extracts from reports testifies to this goodwill:—

“During the quarter, the Deaf Centre celebrated its tenth anniversary. A special party was held to celebrate the occasion with a decorated cake presented by a friend. Cakes and jellies were also made by another member. Members of the Rotary Club also attended and gave a film show and brought numerous prizes with them, which they gave to children attending.”

“Pupils of one of the local schools, after their Harvest Service, kindly sent gifts to the department for distribution amongst the handicapped.”

“The local Round Table provided Christmas gifts in the way of coal and logs to those registered handicapped persons whom we considered to be needy. . . .”

I have also to report two other acts of benefit to registered disabled persons which the department would find it difficult to provide. The first refers to voluntary work carried out by Glamorgan County Police cadets in the homes of handicapped and blind persons during the period under review. The young helpers took great pride in helping in many ways, e.g. chopping sticks, gardening, shopping, running errands, and I understand that a strong bond has been developed between the cadets and many of the disabled persons concerned. Another instance has been the matching up of four boys of Atlantic College, St. Donats, who are interested in social welfare, with four old people, who were in need of similar help.

Through the courtesy of the Management of the Capitol Cinema, Cardiff, approximately 750 blind and handicapped persons from the Administrative County attended a screening of the film "Sound of Music" on Monday, 26th April, 1965. There was no charge for admission and Mr. Alun Williams, the B.B.C. television commentator, provided an appropriate commentary on the film for the special benefit of those who were blind.

SERVICES, PROVISIONS AND AMENITIES

The following sections concern other services and amenities which apply in the main to individual disabled persons rather than to those described above in respect of Social Handicraft Centres.

Social Rehabilitation of Physically Handicapped Persons

Last year you decided to meet in full the cost of sending suitable applicants for courses of social rehabilitation such as that provided by the Royal National Institute for the Blind at the Rehabilitation Centre at Bridgnorth, and currently three applications are being dealt with.

Holidays for Physically Handicapped Persons

Financial grants were authorised to enable blind or partially sighted persons to enjoy a holiday at a holiday home of their choice, as outlined in the table below, the figures including applicants dealt with under delegated powers by the Rhondda Borough Council:—

<i>Blind Holiday Home</i>	<i>No. of Persons Assisted</i>
London Association for the Blind Homes:	
'Orton Rigg,' Bournemouth	4
'The Lauriston,' Weston-super-Mare ..	35
Glynn Vivian Home of Rest, Mumbles, Gower	13
The 'Bannow' Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea ..	4
The Henderson Holiday Home, Blackpool ..	2
	—
	58
	—

Travelling expenses were also met where necessary, including those of escorts, usually the wife or husband.

Grants towards travelling expenses were also authorised for those blind and partially sighted persons who wished to spend a holiday in other parts of the country with friends or relatives; where it was necessary, the expenses of a guide were met. The gross cost of the holiday service for the blind and partially sighted this year amounted to £1,096, compared with £900 and £800 in the previous two years.

Similar grants were authorised for 64 handicapped persons—other than the blind and partially sighted—to go on holiday at a cost of £505, the expenses of an escort being met where appropriate.

“ Mr. H. (H.8079) and Mrs. H. (H.8035), both registered handicapped persons, were given a grant towards the cost of a caravan holiday which was taken at Porthcawl.

Mr. H., who suffers from a severe chest complaint, invariably spends the winter months confined to bed, and his wife is an epileptic and wears a spinal support for an arthritic spine. They had not been able to go for a holiday for many years, firstly because of their handicaps and secondly, because of pecuniary difficulties.

They are very profuse in their thanks to the County Council for enabling them to have a wonderful holiday, and are most voluble in their appreciation of the assistance available under the County Council's Scheme for Handicapped Persons.”

“ Messrs. S. (H.7391 and H.7709), brothers suffering from muscular dystrophy, were afforded a grant to attend the annual Treasure Trove, Kilvrough Manor, on the Gower coast, organised by the South Wales Association of Youth Clubs.

Both boys, who are in their teens, are confined to wheelchairs, but such were the facilities of Kilvrough that they experienced no discomfort, and had a most enjoyable week—taking part in all the group activities. They enjoyed themselves immensely, and their week's stay was the first holiday they had had.

Their mother, who tends their every need whilst they are home, also benefited from this short break, and thanks the Welfare Services Committee for making the holiday possible by its generous grant.”

Handicrafts

I am pleased to report that a wide variety of handicrafts have continued to be practised to good effect by many disabled persons in their homes, and at your Social Handicraft Centres. The basic materials for this work are obtained on favourable terms in consequence of the department's bulk purchasing arrangements, which, in turn, enables registered disabled craft-workers to purchase them at advantageous prices.

The following table shows cash sales of pastime materials made during the period under review:—

<i>Materials Dispatched by</i>	<i>Disability Category</i>	<i>Number of Orders Received</i>	<i>Total Value of Orders £</i>
Glamorgan County Council (Central Office)	Blind and Partially Sighted	482	670
	Handicapped	1,064	1,550
Rhondda Borough Council	Blind and Partially Sighted	266	226
	Handicapped	440	474
TOTALS		2,252	£2,920

The total cash figure of £2,920 compares satisfactorily with the two previous years' figures of £2,893 and £2,711 respectively.

Your Scheme permits a free initial issue of pastime materials to be made, and this introduces a disabled person to pastime activities in which he can obtain positive, satisfying and often remunerative results. In the year under review, 67 free issues of materials were made to blind and partially sighted persons, and 144 to otherwise handicapped persons, both figures including the free issues made by the Rhondda Borough Council.

Canework, rugmaking, knitting and seagrass stool seating, still remain most popular with handicapped persons able to undertake craft-work; in addition, blind and partially sighted persons make useful knitted household articles from cotton yarn.

As the reports below confirm, there is now ample evidence to prove that well made, reasonably priced articles command a ready sale on their own merits, and without need of patronage or sympathy. Indeed, Centre Committees organising Sales of Work increasingly find themselves in difficulty to fulfil all orders immediately, because of unexpected demand. The continuing progress made in this sphere is most gratifying, since it positively reveals, firstly, the degree to which the members of a Centre individually or collectively are becoming fully integrated members of the community in which they live. Secondly, your encouragement of creative work in the Social Centres has promoted a desire for corporate activity and responsibility, a valuable concomitant which helps to alleviate the burdens of disablement.

As many reports have shown, there is even a sense of attachment for those persons who can but rarely attend their Social Handicraft Centre. Members will realise that, for the disabled, this sense of 'belonging' provides an essential and valuable support; 'disabilities shared' can often mean 'disabilities halved.'

The following extracts from reports speak for themselves:—

“ On 21st August, the Secretary of the O.A.P. Committee in R. asked us to display our handwork at their Exhibition and Horticultural Show, held in the Technical College. This we did, and the handicrafts made by both the local blind and handicapped people caused a sensation—everybody was delighted with the display and wished to buy everything there. The Secretary afterwards asked me to exhibit our handicrafts at their next year's Show.”

“ The P. Social Handicraft Centre is extremely active in its handicraft activities, the men being generally interested in stool seating and basket work, and the ladies busily concerned with embroidery, dishcloth knitting, etc.

The atmosphere in this Centre is such that H.4628, a regular member at the Centre, unable to adapt himself to any form of craft-work insists that he be allowed to ‘clean up’ at the end of the meeting in order that he may contribute in some way towards the success of the Centre.”

“ Only a small amount of the usual embroidery work and knitting has been done this year because we were kept busy making leek emblems. We had so many orders for them at the last moment that demand exceeded the supply, so we have decided to continue making leeks in readiness for the 1st March, 1967. . . .”

“ The members of both Centres entered in the Special Sections for Handicrafts by the Blind in both the Lewistown Agricultural Show and the Nantymoel Chrysanthemum Show and were very successful. The outstanding exhibit in both shows was a rug made by a totally blind lady from M-. (Mrs. M.A.J., B.2518), who, besides winning two firsts, won a special diploma. . . .”

“ A very successful sale of work was held on 18th June at E. Chapel Hall. A large number of people attended and were full of praise on the standard of work displayed. The amount realised from the sale was £42. As this was the first sale of work held by the Centre and because of the excellent result achieved, the members now propose to hold another in November or December. I have been most grateful to the officers at the Chapel for granting the Centre the use of their hall, free of charge, and for their co-operation and assistance.”

“ At the Social Centre, basket work and leather work continue to be the popular crafts, and it is from these activities that a valued Centre income is obtained.

Rugmaking in its various forms is to be introduced as a Centre occupation in the coming year. Since there is an inactive core of women in the Centre, an easy craft such as rugmaking will induce them to become participating members of the Centre. To speed this

up somewhat, it was decided at the last Centre Committee meeting to form a small sub-committee, which would include some of the inactive Centre members, to assist the Social Welfare Officer in the development of Centre pastime occupations. This development would not be at the expense of the purely social activities, e.g. card games, dominoes, etc., as these also have a definite value in the Social Centre."

"No new crafts were introduced during the Quarter under review. However, the members continued to be busy with nursery chair and stool seating with nylon seating cord, tray making, etc. In addition, a total of 1,500 calendars were assembled and sold for the benefit of Centre funds on Friday, 19th November last, when a successful Sale of Work was held at the M-. Social Handicraft Centre venue, which resulted in an addition of approximately £60 to Centre funds."

Aids to overcome Handicaps

The specialist staff for this important aspect of your welfare provisions consists of a Senior Technical Assistant, supported by three Junior Technical Assistants, and these officers have had yet another busy year devising aids for registered handicapped persons on a 'made to measure' basis.

I am pleased to report that the equilibrium reached between demand and production of aids at the County Workshops for the Blind, Treforest, since September, 1962, has remained undisturbed and that your decision to make no charge to handicapped persons who receive the aids free on loan for an indefinite period appears fully justified.

The progressive development of this work is listed in the following production record:—

Aids manufactured during the year ended 31st March

			1963	1965	1966
Group A & B	Feeding/Drinking Aids	..	244	164	145
Group C	Dressing Aids	.. ..	310	225	149
Group D	Writing Aids	.. ..	23	18	8
Group E	Reaching Aids	.. ..	74	99	98
Group F	Bathing Aids	.. ..	245	326	395
Group G	Miscellaneous	.. ..	242	248	238
Group H	Tables	.. ..	109	75	47
	Repairs and modifications	.. ..	99	186	159
			<hr/> 1,346 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,341 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,239 <hr/>



PORTABLE RAMP IN USE

Although experience has confirmed that the aids requirements of most physically handicapped persons are most effectively met by tailor-made aids which are designed and constructed in the department, there is a minority who can benefit from standardised and commercially produced aids. These have been found quite satisfactory in use, and their purchase enables the Aids Department to concentrate upon the manufacture of tailor-made aids. During the year under review, you authorised the purchase of the following commercially produced aids:—

76 Cee Vee Reachers, making a total of 463 now on issue.

80 Zimmer Reachers, making a total of 294 now on issue.

No Cantilever tables, making a total of 116 now on issue.

30 various aids made by the British Red Cross Society, making a total of 253 now on issue.

Aids for the Blind

During the year the following articles were purchased from the Royal National Institute for the Blind for issue on loan to blind persons:—

White walking sticks	93
Domestic aids (e.g. self-threading needles, sugar dispensers, Norris bread-cutting boxes, etc.)	252
Games Aids	21
Writing Aids	30
Handicraft Aids	3

Adaptations to Homes of Handicapped Persons

The adaptation of homes by the Authority is designed to enable disabled occupants to lead a more normal life and a total of 68 applications have been approved this year, at a total cost of £1,623. The Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation contributed £383 in respect of sixteen of these works, where the adaptations were undertaken on behalf of persons disabled in the mining industry. In the Rhondda, thirteen works of adaptation were authorised at a cost of £1,103, to which the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation contributed £323. I would like once again to place on record the excellent co-operation always received from C.I.S.W.O.

The following extracts from reports, received from Social Welfare Officers, illustrate the benefits conferred on handicapped persons as a result of adaptations to their homes:—

“H.7847—this handicapped lady who lives alone is delighted with the adaptations that have been carried out to her house by the County Council. She has had a toilet installed just off her living room, and her pantry altered. She is unable to walk without a walking tripod and cannot climb steps. Her old toilet was in the garden up a flight of steps and had no flush.”

“ B.5607 and H.8600—this blind gentleman who is also handicapped, and his handicapped wife, live in a very old fashioned house. Both had found difficulty in climbing the stairs, but now a handrail has been fitted (as a work of adaptation) they are able to go upstairs to bed without fear of falling down. This has meant a great deal to them as they are an elderly couple.”

“ B.6337—on the advice of the Social Welfare Officer, this elderly blind lady wrote to the N. Rural District Council to ask if it would be possible for the bath which had been installed in her home to be exchanged for a special type invalid bath. The Technical Assistant was requested to visit the home and to advise on a more suitable type of bath. The Council then accepted his suggestion, and have installed a most suitable bath. Arrangements are now in hand for the Welfare Services Committee to provide a bath seat and stool.”

Employment of Handicapped Persons

During the period under review, a considerable volume of work has again been undertaken co-operatively with the Disablement Resettlement Service of the Ministry of Labour and the County Youth Employment Service, who have the prime responsibility of finding employment for disabled persons. Because of their specialist knowledge of the disability and close acquaintance with the handicapped person, Social Welfare Officers are able to provide valuable support to the services mentioned.

For those who cannot undertake ‘open’ employment, there remains the possibility of ‘sheltered’ employment, such as is provided at the County Workshops for the Blind at Treforest and Llwynypia, at the Swansea Authority’s Workshops at Morriston and at the Workshops of the Cardiff Institute for the Blind. In recent years, a slowly increasing number of sighted disabled persons have been integrated with blind workers in joint production, a development of advantage to both groups of disabled persons.

An analysis of the type of work undertaken by the 16 sighted disabled persons—last year the comparable figure was 13—will be found in the table on Page 73. In addition, three similarly disabled persons were in employment at the Swansea Workshops at 31st March, 1966.

Table VI and the subsidiary Table VII, which correspond with the information required annually by the Ministry of Health, provide details of the work carried out in connection with the education, rehabilitation, training and employment of blind persons over the age of 16 years. On the 31st March, 1966, there were 105 blind males in employment, of whom 49 were engaged in ‘open’ employment and 56 in ‘sheltered’ employment. Of the 22 blind females, seven were in ‘open’ employment and 15 in ‘sheltered’ employment.

The ‘sheltered’ employment provided for the 56 males and 15 females was at the County Workshops, Treforest and Llwynypia and at the Morriston Workshops of the Swansea Authority.

The total number of blind persons 'not working, 65 and over,' viz: 1,639, represents 72.3% of the total of 2,265 persons on the County Register over the age of 16. Last year the percentage was 71.4 and, in the previous year, 72.3. Of those capable and available for work, i.e. twenty-two, 17 are males. These cases of unemployment remain under constant review by the Disablement Resettlement Services and your Social Welfare Officers.

The inter-relation between the numbers of registered blind persons in 'open' and those in 'sheltered' employment for the last decade is given in the following table:—

<i>Persons employed</i>	1957	1960	1963	1966
In 'sheltered' employment ..	89	81	77	71
In 'open' employment ..	60	59	64	56
TOTALS	149	140	141	127

Though this table reveals the satisfactory trend from 'sheltered' to 'open' employment for blind persons, the 'open' figures suggest that a position of equilibrium may have been reached.

Further details on the progress made at the County Workshops during the year will be found in a later section of this report.

On the 31st March, 1966, the number of partially sighted persons in 'open' employment was 49, compared with 38 and 39 for two previous years. Four were employed at the County Workshops for the Blind, and none were under training at the same date. From Table XII in the Appendix, it will be observed that 368 partially sighted persons, 42.1% of the total registered, are mainly industrially handicapped, and not likely to suffer any deterioration of vision. Last year the percentage figure was 42.8%.

Wireless for the Bedridden Society

I am pleased to report that the excellent liaison between the Society and the County Council, acting as the Society's agent, has continued. During the year, the Society approved four new applications for wireless sets, and paid broadcast licences for nine wireless sets.

The British Wireless for the Blind Fund

As agents in Glamorgan on behalf of the Fund, the Department has continued to distribute wireless sets to blind persons in need. Particulars of sets issued, with comparative figures for previous years, are given opposite.

<i>Types of Listening Equipment</i>	<i>Year Ended</i>			
	31/3/63	31/3/64	31/3/65	31/3/66
Universal Main Sets	102	84	64	68
Battery Sets	15	20	19*	24*
Radio Relay	56	36	24	23

*Includes two Transistor Type Radios adapted with headphones for blind persons with defective hearing.

Repair of Wireless Sets for the Blind

During the period under review, the sum of £82 has been expended on the repair of wireless receivers, either privately owned or issued by the British Wireless for the Blind Fund. Last year the cost was £163, and for the previous year £172.

Wireless Telegraphy (Blind Persons' Facilities) Act, 1955

Under the provisions of this Act, 252 certificates were issued to enable blind persons to obtain free wireless licences.

Talking Books for the Blind

Members will recollect that because of the great popularity of the new tape machines owned and rented by the Nuffield Talking Book Library, the Authority decided last year that it would meet the £3 annual rental of machines supplied to the ambulant blind, and that the Glamorgan County Blind Welfare Association should meet the annual rental in respect of the home bound blind.

There are now 143 blind persons (excluding those mentioned later in the section of this report dealing with the Glamorgan County Blind Welfare Association's affairs) enjoying this amenity, as the following report testifies:—

“The popularity of this method of ‘reading’ is increasing in the area, especially by those blind persons who are still capable of enjoying good literature. One lady told me that she enjoys nothing better than getting up from bed in the early hours of the morning, when she is unable to sleep, to make a hot cup of tea and listen to her current novel.”

In addition, nine talking books were issued to the Authority's Homes for the Aged to enable resident blind persons to enjoy this amenity.

Periodicals

Twenty-five different periodicals embossed in Braille or Moon type were supplied free of charge to blind persons. Demand for these periodicals, totalling 189, has slightly decreased this year, possibly due to the continuing popularity of the new type talking book referred to above.

The Authority's grant of £150 to the National Library for the Blind was continued in respect of 50 readers in Glamorgan.

Badges for Severely Disabled Drivers

In July, 1961, the Welsh Board of Health requested local welfare authorities to issue special car badges to severely disabled drivers to ease their difficulties in finding suitable parking places. Issued solely to those who have severe difficulty in walking, these badges do not confer any special privileges, but enable the police to identify the vehicles, and help is thus solicited. In the year under review, a total of 107 badges was issued, including 11 issued to residents of the Rhondda.

Wales and Monmouthshire Regional Council for the Blind

The Supervisor/Trainer of Home Teachers and three Social Welfare Officers holding the Home Teachers Certificate attended a two-day Refresher Course organised by the Regional Council at Llandrindod Wells from 17th to 19th March, 1966. The officers reported that the course had proved both interesting and valuable.

"Doorbell" Device for the Deaf/Blind

In November, 1964, the Welsh Board of Health invited the Authority to participate in giving an extended field trial to the "Doorbell" device for the deaf/blind which had been developed by the Royal National Institute for the Blind in co-operation with the Post Office. As agreed with the Welsh Board of Health, the department arranged for the purchase and installation of part of the apparatus in the homes of three Glamorgan deaf/blind persons who were equipped with special deaf aid receivers supplied gratis by the Ministry of Health. Early in 1966, questionnaires were completed and returned to the Ministry of Health in London in order that the experiment might be evaluated: the findings are now awaited.

Information and Publicity—General

A variety of information concerning Glamorgan welfare services has been disseminated to outside bodies on a number of occasions in the form of talks given by Social Welfare Officers, lecture/demonstrations given by Technical and Administrative officers, in which the department's film strip on adaptations and aids or the demonstration set of aids themselves have been used as illustrative material.

Central Office of Information Survey

In August, 1965, authority was given to enable Central Office of Information Survey staff to obtain from departmental records information regarding the mobility and reading habits of selected registered blind persons living in the Administrative County, who have agreed to participate in the survey, undertaken on behalf of the Ministry of Health.

Registration of Blind and Partially Sighted Persons

In August, 1965, you considered a letter from the Welsh Board of Health which proposed, inter alia, that Executive Councils should receive from the Authority's Welfare Services Department the names, addresses and telephone numbers of Area Officers who could be contacted regarding services provided by the Authority for the registered blind and partially sighted. The Executive Councils would then communicate this information to Ophthalmic Medical Practitioners and Ophthalmic Opticians so that they would in their turn be able to inform their patients, particularly the elderly or handicapped living alone or in remote areas, of the availability and benefits of registration as blind and partially sighted persons.

Following your authorisation, the required information was communicated to the Glamorgan Executive Council.

GLAMORGAN COUNTY BLIND WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Membership of the Association embraces members of the Special Services and Finance Sub-Committee and representatives of Social Centres. Its working funds are derived from collections made in the Administrative County by the Royal National Institute for the Blind. Under a financial agreement with the Institute, the Association received 65 per cent of the net collections and the following examples illustrate the manner in which these funds are utilised:—

- (i) Fifty-one watches and twenty-three alarm clocks were issued on loan (five watches and four alarm clocks were re-issued) and 103 Braille time-pieces were repaired. The cost of this service was £335 5s. 7d.
- (ii) One hundred and ten batteries for wireless sets were issued and radio rentals were paid in respect of 193 blind persons.
- (iii) The cost of providing amenities for homebound blind—fireguards, bedjackets, slippers, etc.—was £47 1s. 9d. A total of 15 Talking Book Machines was issued to homebound blind persons during the year, the number now benefiting from this amenity being 35.

- (iv) Gifts of flowers, fruit, etc., costing £668 4s. 7d. were made to sick blind persons and two parcels of comforts were given to blind persons attaining their 100th and 101st birthdays.
- (v) Grants totalling £335 10s. 0d. were made to 20 Centres towards the cost of catering and transport for Inter-Centre visits.
- (vi) Eighteen summer outings—additional to those provided by the County Council—were arranged at a cost of £1,392 10s. 0d. and 1,636 blind persons attended.
- (vii) Grants to blind persons unable to attend a summer outing or Christmas party arranged by the County Council, were increased from 21/-d. to 30/-d. during the year. Total cost of this provision this year was £4,132 16s. 0d.
- (viii) Grants to blind persons attending the County Council outings and Christmas parties were also increased from 11/-d. to 15/-d. The cost of this amenity was £1,108 10s. 0d. in the period under review.
- (ix) *Eisteddfodau for the Blind*

Once again the Annual Eisteddfodau for the Blind—the eleventh—were most successful. Five hundred blind persons and guides attended the East Glamorgan Eisteddfod at the Boys' County Grammar School, Pontypridd, on the 26th August—at which County Alderman J. Rhys James presided. The West Glamorgan Eisteddfod held on the 24th August was attended by 490 blind persons and guides; County Councillor Wyndham Jones presided. In addition to cash prizes, winners of individual competitions were presented with competition cups to be held for one year. Keen interest was shown at both Eisteddfodau in individual or group events in the stage competitions.

In the choral competitions, the winner in the East Glamorgan Eisteddfod was the Treorchy Social Centre, and Pontardawe Social Centre won the event in West Glamorgan.

The best individual competitor in the stage events in West Glamorgan was Mrs. M. Rees, pianist (Maesteg Centre) who was awarded the Madame Wynnie Richards-Thomas Challenge Cup. The Tudor Jeremy Challenge Cup at the East Glamorgan Eisteddfod was won by Mrs. J. Bebb, Treorchy Social Centre, soprano.

COUNTY WORKSHOPS FOR THE BLIND

The number of journeymen and journeywomen employed in the various departments of the County Workshops at the 31st March, 1966, was as follows:—

Departments	TREForest			LLWYNYPia			TOTAL
	Blind	Partially Sighted	Sighted Disabled	Blind	Partially Sighted	Sighted Disabled	
Knitting ..	6	—	6	4	—	—	16
Mat	—	—	—	14	—	1	15
Brush	—	—	—	10	2	4	16
Basket	8	1	1	8	1	—	19
Aids to Handicapped Persons ..	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
							70

DEPARTMENTAL SURVEY

Mat Department—Llwynypia

It has again been a difficult year in this department, due to lack of orders particularly for gymnasium mats. Former customers are now making increasing use of foam rubber mats for this purpose.

Brush Department—Llwynypia

The Brush Department had another very busy year. There was a noticeable increase in the number of road rollers to be refilled, largely due to the major road building contracts in the area. Contracts were also received from local authorities and the County Supplies Department.

Knitting Department—Treforest and Llwynypia

The quality of the knitwear produced continues to reflect itself in the increasing number of orders received, not only from all parts of the British Isles but also from as far afield as Whyalla, South Australia.

Several times during the year it was necessary for overtime to be worked in an effort to reduce the waiting time for delivery to customers, and to keep pace with the steady flow of orders received.

Basket Department—Treforest and Llwynypia

Eight hundred and seventy-three pigeon baskets were sold in the year under review. Although these constitute the main production of the department, orders continue to be received from the National Association of Workshops for the Blind for G.P.O. hampers.



COUNTY WORKSHOPS—MAT WEAVING



COUNTY WORKSHOPS—MAT FINISHING

Aids Department—Treforest

A welding kit was installed in this department during the year, and this has helped considerably in improving production of certain types of aids. Unfortunately, restricted space prevents further extensions, which are urgently required in this department to meet the continual and ever-increasing demand for the high quality aids produced.

General

The Workshops' staff travelled to Swansea and the Gower Coast for the Annual Outing, where fine weather helped to ensure an enjoyable day. The Christmas Dinner was once again held at the Pontypridd and District Social Club.

Accounts

The County Treasurer's summarised accounts for the Glamorgan County Workshops for the year ended 31st March, 1966, will be found at the end of this report.

Productive Earnings—Blind Workers

The following figures compare the average earnings of the journey-workers at both workshops during 1965/66 with those for the previous year:—

	1965/66			1964/65		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Mat	3	3	8	3	9	9
Brush	3	5	10	3	2	8
Knitwear (Flat)	4	7	8	3	19	11
Knitwear (Round)	1	2	1	1	1	1
Basket	3	12	10	3	9	7

SALES ORGANISATION

For the period under review total sales amounted to £33,042, and a comparative annual statement is submitted below:—

<i>Twelve months ending</i>	<i>Total Sales £</i>	<i>Increase/Decrease £</i>
31/3/66	33,042	+ 1,064
31/3/65	31,978	+ 3,668
31/3/64	28,310	+ 1,009
31/3/63	27,301	+ 1,668
31/3/62	25,633	+ 292
31/3/61	25,341	— 377
31/3/60	25,718	+ 1,995
31/3/59	23,723	+ 1,266

Display Cases

A steady flow of orders was received as a result of displays at Port Talbot General Hospital, County Hall and the County Offices at Ystrad Mynach and Bridgend. The display windows at the new County Offices, Greyfriars Road, have proved their worth, many orders having been received from passers-by.

Mail Order Sales

In response to selective advertising, sales of pigeon baskets amounted to £2,694.

Exhibitions

Due to the kindness of the organisers, free space was given for exhibition of the Workshops' products at a large number of agricultural and flower shows held in the county. Considerable sales resulted, and much valued publicity was achieved.

"The Disabled at Work" Exhibition

At the request of the Cardiff Disablement Advisory Committee, you authorised a display of the products of the Glamorgan County Workshops for the Blind at an exhibition entitled "The Disabled at Work" held at Sophia Gardens Pavilion, Cardiff, on 5th-7th October, 1965.

APPENDIX

WELFARE OF THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

STATISTICAL TABLES

The statistical information contained in this Appendix is based on information submitted to the Ministry of Health on the 31st December of each year but amended to relate to the year ended 31st March, 1966. The page number shown at the top righthand corner of each Table indicates the page in the Report to which the Table refers.

Welfare of the Generally Handicapped

Table

- I Registers of Handicapped Persons—Area Basis.
- II Distribution of Registered Handicapped Persons by Age and Sex.
- IIIa Disabilities of Generally Handicapped Persons—Ministry of Labour Categories.
- IIIb Disabilities of Generally Handicapped Persons—Complete Analyses.

Welfare of the Blind and Partially Sighted

- IV Register of Blind Persons Classified into Age Groups and Sex.
- V Register of Blind Persons—Cases Newly-registered during Year ended 31st March, 1966—Age at Date of Registration.
- VI Education, Training and Employment of Blind Persons over the age of 16.
- VII Occupations of Employed Blind Persons.
- VIII Blind Children Aged under 16.
- IX Blind Persons over the Age of 16 not normally Resident at Home.
- X Register of Partially Sighted Persons Classified into Age Groups and Sex.
- XI Register of Partially Sighted Persons—Cases Newly-registered during Year ended 31st March, 1966—Age at Date of Registration.
- XII Partially Sighted Register—General.

TABLE I

See Page 36

NUMBER OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS ON REGISTER

	North East Glamorgan	Central Glamorgan	West Glamorgan	South East Glamorgan	Rhondda	Total at 31st March 1966	Total at 31st March 1965	Total at 31st March 1964
Deaf with Speech	32	12	17	6	7	74	75	78
Deaf without Speech	72	47	45	19	33	216	243	244
Hard of Hearing ..	97	90	106	121	14	428	470	477
General Classes ..	1,582	1,022	861	961	884	5,310	5,463	5,196
TOTALS ..	1,783	1,171	1,029	1,107	938	6,028	6,251	5,995

TABLE II

See Page 36

DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTERED HANDICAPPED PERSONS
BY AGE AND SEX

Disability	Sex	0-15	16-20	21-40	41-50	51-64	65 and over	Totals at 31st March, 1966	
Deaf with Speech	M.	—	—	10	11	4	5	30	74
	F.	—	1	13	3	6	21	44	
Deaf without Speech	M.	3	14	45	9	18	21	110	216
	F.	2	17	39	13	19	16	106	
Hard of Hearing	M.	2	1	13	5	31	112	164	428
	F.	2	2	9	8	64	179	264	
Generally Handicapped	M.	849	170	473	150	207	1,005	2,854	5,310
	F.	658	101	345	143	154	1,055	2,456	
TOTALS ..		1,516	306	947	342	503	2,414	6,028	6,028

TABLE IIIa

See Page 36

REGISTER OF GENERALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Disability	North-East Glamorgan	Central Glamorgan	West Glamorgan	South-East Glamorgan	Rhondda	Total at 31st March, 1966	Total at 31st March, 1965	Total at 31st March, 1964
Amputations ..	61	63	37	46	48	255	254	237
Arthritis and Rheumatism ..	345	190	175	255	131	1,096	1,034	926
Congenital Malformation and Deformation	41	21	25	21	35	143	134	127
Disease of the Digestive and Genito/Urinary Systems, Heart, Circulatory or Respiratory and of the Skin	370	186	188	193	270	1,207	1,332	1,345
Injuries of the Head, Face and Thorax, Abdomen Pelvis or Trunk Injuries or Diseases of Upper and Lower Limbs and Spine	243	153	117	122	71	706	732	695
Organic Nervous Diseases: Epilepsy, Disseminated Sclerosis, Polio, Sciatica, Hemiplegia, etc.	332	270	204	233	234	1,273	1,227	1,088
Neurosis, Psychoses, and other Nervous and Mental Disorders not included above ..	104	58	31	27	37	257	330	359
T.B. (Respiratory)	26	24	29	14	18	111	133	122
T.B. (Non-Respiratory) ..	17	12	15	9	17	70	58	62
Diseases and Injuries not specified above ..	43	45	40	41	23	192	229	235
TOTALS ..	1,582	1,022	861	961	884	5,310	5,463	5,196

TABLE IIIb

See Page 36

REGISTER OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS AT 31st MARCH, 1966

DISABILITY	North-East Glamorgan	Central Glamorgan	West Glamorgan	South-East Glamorgan	Rhondda	Total
A. GENERAL CLASSES:						
1. Amputation—one arm	4	14	7	4	7	36
2. Amputation—two arms	—	—	—	1	1	2
3. Amputation—one leg	44	39	22	27	24	156
4. Amputation—two legs	7	2	4	9	6	28
5. Amputation—others	6	8	4	5	10	33
6. Rheumatism	345	190	175	255	131	1,096
7. Congenital Malformation	41	21	25	21	35	143
8. Diseases of the Digestive System	30	16	2	8	16	72
9. Diseases of the Genito/Urinary System	7	7	3	8	1	26
10. Diseases of Heart	127	58	54	96	73	408
11. Pneumoconiosis	145	64	86	50	130	475
12. Bronchitis	58	36	37	26	48	205
13. Diseases of Skin	3	5	6	5	2	21
18. Injuries of Head and Trunk ..	46	21	13	13	8	101
19. Injuries of Lower Limbs	113	57	54	58	35	317
20. Injuries of Shoulder or Arm ..	29	11	13	10	8	71
21. Injuries of Spine	55	64	37	41	20	217
22. Neurosis	63	26	15	14	8	126
23. Epilepsy	43	39	16	27	42	167
24. Other Nervous Diseases	289	231	188	206	192	1,106
25. Mental Deficiency	25	24	11	7	18	85
26. Other Mental Disorders	16	8	5	6	11	46
27. T.B. Pulmonary	26	24	29	14	18	111
28. T.B. Surgical	17	12	15	9	17	70
29. Others	43	45	40	41	23	192
	1,582	1,022	861	961	884	5,310
B. DEAF WITH SPEECH	32	12	17	6	7	74
DEAF WITHOUT SPEECH	72	47	45	19	33	216
	104	59	62	25	40	290
C. HARD OF HEARING	97	90	106	121	14	428
	1,783	1,171	1,029	1,107	938	6,028

TABLE IV

REGISTER OF BLIND PERSONS AS AT 31st MARCH, 1966
(Classified under Age Groups and Sex)

	0	1	2	3	4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	90+	Total
Male	-	1	-	-	-	9	10	4	21	34	51	94	86	99	224	131	94	39	897
Female	-	-	-	1	1	4	12	6	19	19	58	124	108	134	407	260	177	76	1,406
Total at 31/3/66	-	1	-	1	1	13	22	10	40	53	109	218	194	233	631	391	271	115	2,303
Total at 31/3/65	-	1	-	-	-	19	20	12	31	55	107	223	177	214	580	363	261	107	2,170

TABLE V

See Page 36

BLIND PERSONS REGISTERED AS NEW CASES DURING YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1966
(Excluding Re-certifications and Transfers from other Areas)

AGE AT DATE OF REGISTRATION

	0	1	2	3	4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	90+	Total
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	14	9	9	48	20	19	3	127
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	6	10	17	30	68	48	26	4	213
Total at 31/3/66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	8	24	26	39	116	68	45	7	340
Total at 31/3/65	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	6	8	25	27	37	81	64	41	15	308

TABLE VI
EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF BLIND PERSONS
AGE PERIOD 16 YEARS AND UPWARDS

Age	EMPLOYED										Undergoing Training			NOT EMPLOYED										GRAND TOTAL (i.e. Total of Columns (d) — (p) and at School 16-20)	Number of Persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, included in Column (c)													
	In Workshops for the Blind (a)						As Approved Home Workers (b)		Otherwise than in (a) or (b) (c)				(d) TOTAL EMPLOYED			For Sheltered Employment			For Open Employment			Professional or University				Unemployed but capable of and available for work						Not Available for Work (u)		Not Capable of Work (o)		(p) Not Working		
	16-20	21-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65 and over			16-20	21-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65 and over	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)			16-59	60-64	16-59	60-64	16-59	60-64	16-59	60-64					
Male ..	3	8	12	25	9	2			1	22	14	4	8	-	2	1	-	-	1	1	9	-	6	38	23	63	40	585	877	93								
Female ..	2	4	5	6	-	-			2	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	148	84	51	23	1054	1388	23								
TOTAL at 31/3/66 ..	5	12	17	31	9	2			3	23	15	6	9	-	2	1	-	-	2	2	10	-	7	186	107	114	63	1639	2265	116								
TOTAL at 31/3/65 ..	5	14	17	33	8	1			1	24	14	9	6	4	1	-	-	-	3	4	12	-	7	158	87	126	76	1520	2130	121								

TABLE VII

OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED BLIND PERSONS (INCLUDED IN COLUMN (d) OF TABLE VI)

PERIOD — YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1966

	Group I		Group II	Group III	Group IV	Group V													Group VI		Total																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
	Professional, Technical Administrative and Executive Workers, Managerial Workers		Clerical and Related Workers	Sales Workers	Agricultural and Horticultural Workers	Craftsmen, Production, Process Workers, Labourers													Service and Miscellaneous Workers																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
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TABLE VIII
BLIND CHILDREN, AGE UNDER 16

	Under 2	Age 2 to 4 plus			Age 5 to 15 plus							TOTAL	
		Suitable for Education at School		Unsuitable for Education at School	Suitable for Education at School								
		Attending Nursery Schools including Sunshine Homes	At Home or Elsewhere	At Home or Elsewhere	Attending Special Schools for the Blind		Attending Other Schools		Not at School		Blind with Multiple Defects		
					Blind but no other Defects	Blind with other Defects	Blind but no other Defects	Blind with other Defects	Blind but no other Defects	Blind with other Defects			
Male ..	1	—	—	—	8	—	—	2	—	1	1	7	20
Female ..	—	—	2	—	10	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	18
TOTAL at 31/3/66 ..	1	—	2	—	18	2	—	2	1	1	1	10	38
TOTAL at 31/3/65 ..	—	—	1	—	20	3	—	3	1	—	2	10	40

TABLE IX

See Page 36

**BLIND PERSONS AGED 16 AND UPWARDS (EXCLUDING THOSE IN HOSTELS FOR WORKERS)
RESIDENT IN HOMES, HOSPITALS, ETC.**

	Residential Accommodation provided under Part III of the 1948 Act, viz. Section 21		Residential Homes (other than Part III) (c)	In Hospitals for Mentally III (d)	In Hospitals for Mentally Sub-Normal (e)	Chronic Wards of Hospitals (f)	Total (g)
	Homes for the Blind (a)	Other Homes (Glamorgan County Council) (b)					
Male	4	28	1	8	7	16	64
Female	9	57	1	10	11	17	105
Total at 31st March, 1966 ..	13	85	2	18	18	33	169
Total at 31st March, 1965 ..	15	91	—	15	17	31	169

TABLE X

See Page 36

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS
AGE GROUPS AND SEX

	0-1	2-4	5-15	16-20	21-49	50-64	65 and over	Total
Males	—	4	23	11	42	50	172	302
Females	—	—	12	8	44	63	450	577
Total at 31/3/1966 ..	—	4	35	19	86	113	622	879
Total at 31/3/1965 ..	—	2	36	20	84	124	576	842

TABLE XI

See Page 36

NUMBER OF PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS NEWLY
REGISTERED (EXCLUDING RE-CERTIFICATIONS AND
TRANSFERS FROM OTHER AREAS)

AGE AT DATE OF REGISTRATION

	0-1	2-4	5-15	16-20	21-49	50-64	65 and over	Total
Males	—	3	2	—	2	9	37	53
Females	—	—	2	—	3	7	79	91
Total at 31/3/1966 ..	—	3	4	—	5	16	116	144
Total at 31/3/1965 ..	—	1	7	3	9	34	150	204

TABLE XII

See Page 36

Partially Sighted Register—General

	1965-66	1964-65	1963-64
Persons near and prospectively blind (aged 16 and over)	325	287	230
Persons mainly Industrially Handicapped and in respect of whom there is not likely to be any deterioration of vision (aged 16 and over)	368	360	322
Persons requiring observation only (aged 16 and over)	141	156	167
Children aged 5 and under 16	35	36	33
Children aged 16 and over, still at school ..	6	1	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	875	840	755
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

WELFARE SERVICES COMMITTEE
COUNTY WORKSHOPS FOR THE BLIND
TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1966

1964/65 £	EXPENDITURE	1965/66 £	1964/65 £	INCOME	1965/66 £
10,677	Stock brought forward	9,467	31,978	Sales	33,042
14,851	Purchases	16,008	9,467	Stock carried forward	10,277
14,333	Productive Earnings	14,702			
	GROSS PROFIT TRANSFERRED TO PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT:—				
905	Aids Department	807			
965	Brush Department	766			
(—) 207	Mat Department	(—) 68			
(—) 436	Basket Department	153			
357	Knitting Department	1,484			
<u>£41,445</u>		<u>£43,319</u>	<u>£41,445</u>		<u>£43,319</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1966

1964/65 £	EXPENDITURE	1965/66 £	1964/65 £	INCOME	1965/66 £
13,211	Wages, Superannuation and National Insurance	15,469	1,584	Gross Profit Transferred from Trading Account	3,142
283	Travelling Expenses—Staff	304	229	Interest on Investments	268
2,022	Travelling Expenses—Blind	2,095	1,079	Purchase Tax	924
1,755	Rent, Rates, Insurance	1,968	102	Miscellaneous	10
1,955	Heating, Lighting, Cleaning	2,009	19,195	Government Grants	20,118
2,460	Repairs to Building and Plant	1,437			
563	Tools and Stores	567	22,189		24,462
381	Carriage	80			
462	Printing, Stationery, etc.	465	38,520	Deficit charged to General County Account	37,102
832	Purchase Tax	1,409			
1,185	Plant and Machinery	476			
214	Furniture and Equipment	129			
2,947	Central Administrative Expenses	651			
	Establishment Expenses:				
2,733	Welfare Department	2,344			
200	Supplies Department	220			
382	Architect's Department	155			
3,267	Sales Expenses	3,236			
226	Miscellaneous	216			
26,705	Augmentation of Wages	28,528			
61,783		61,758			
1,074	Less Chargeable to Training Account	194			
<u>£60,709</u>		<u>£61,564</u>	<u>£60,709</u>		<u>£61,564</u>

TRAINING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1966

1964/65 £	EXPENDITURE	1965/66 £	1964/65 £	INCOME	1965/66 £
10	Stock brought forward	70	770	Sales	104
524	Purchases	18	70	Stock carried forward	—
1,480	Management and Instruction Expenses	268	545	Government Grants	288
—	Surplus transferred to General County Account	36	629	Deficit charged to General County Account	—
<u>2,014</u>		<u>392</u>	<u>£2,014</u>		<u>£392</u>

PART III

STAFF TRAINING

There has been an enthusiastic response to the programme of staff development and training introduced into the department in accordance with the recommendations of the report of the Younghusband Committee. The number of professionally trained staff members has increased, following the return of officers attending full-time certificate courses in social work. At present there are eight officers attending the two year certificate course in Social Work at the Cardiff College of Commerce and Food Technology, and one officer is attending the one year course at the National Institute for Social Work Training in London. On the successful completion of their courses, these officers will qualify for the Certificate in Social Work of the National Institute of Social Work Training.

As a result of your policy of seconding senior staff for professional training, each Area Clerk now holds the Certificate in Social Work of the National Institute of Social Work Training, as do a number of the Senior Social Welfare Officers engaged at the Area Offices under their supervision. The continuance of this policy does ensure that, within a few years' time, the majority of social work staff employed by the department will have had the opportunity of becoming professionally qualified. The qualified officers have been keen to share their new skills and knowledge with their colleagues, and this has resulted in plans to introduce staff development programmes in the area offices: the resultant effect being a conscious effort to better your services.

The department has been closely associated with the training courses in the area, namely the Certificate Course in Social Work at the Cardiff College of Commerce and Food Technology, the University Applied Social Studies and Social Science Courses. Since January, 1966, following the appointment of the present Student Supervisor, nine students from the Certificate Course in Social Work have been placed in the department for 2/3 days per week during term-time for periods up to six months. Four of these students have been supervised individually by the four Area Clerks. You have also made it possible for two staff members to attend the Extra-Mural Department courses on Student Supervision held at the University College of Wales, Cardiff.

The presence of students in the department has been found by other staff members to provide both stimulus and new interest. The students work under very close supervision and they have a small, carefully selected case load of about six cases which are visited regularly on a fairly intensive level. This field work experience enables them to put into practice the theory that is being taught at the College, which gives them an opportunity to develop their professional skill.

This year, as part of the staff development programme, the existing course of training for trainee Social Welfare Officers was extended. Six officers attended this course held at Holly House, Pontypridd, on three days a week, from November, 1965, to July, 1966. The syllabus included handicraft instruction, knowledge of social work theory and practice, background to the social services, human growth and behaviour, and an understanding of the special needs of the aged, the physically handicapped, the blind and the deaf—and the knowledge of technical aids and adaptations. The programme included lectures given by the department's senior administrative officers, senior professional staff and technical specialists. Additionally, there were talks and discussions with officials from other statutory social services and from social workers in other social work agencies.

The group had the opportunity to make observation visits to a cross-section of institutions and centres in the community, including visits to the Authority's residential homes, workshops and social centres.

A short induction course was arranged for Welfare Assistants to provide them with a background to the work of the department with special consideration to an understanding of the needs of those assisted.

In the period under review, five trainee Social Welfare Officers were appointed with a view to their qualifying in the field of blind welfare.

During the autumn months, the trainees underwent preliminary training, given by the department's specialist officers and, in January, attended a selection course at Leeds arranged by the North Regional Association for the Blind. Three were subsequently accepted for attendance at the short intensive residential course organised by the Association in the Spring of 1966 and, in July, 1966, will sit the Home Teaching Certificate Examination of the College of Teachers of the Blind, as will the remaining two officers who are continuing their studies locally under the direction of the department's Supervisor/Trainer of Home Teachers, when it is hoped these officers will be successful in passing their examinations.

The considerable effort put into training has one objective—the betterment of your service to those in the community who are elderly, handicapped or homeless, whom in your name and by statutory authority, it is the department's duty and privilege to assist.



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AREA CLERKS—NAMES AND ADDRESSES

One of the many duties of the Area Clerks of the Welfare Services Department is that of investigating all applications for admission to residential or temporary accommodation. Many initial enquiries are, however, made to the local County Councillor and therefore, for the benefit of Members there is set out below a list of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of Area Clerks and the districts they cover. In respect of the Rhondda Borough, application should be made to the Borough Medical Officer of Health.

<i>Area and Districts Covered</i>	<i>Area Clerks and Telephone Numbers</i>
CENTRAL GLAMORGAN Maesteg U.D., Bridgend U.D., Porthcawl U.D., Penybont R.D., Ogmere and Garw U.D., Glyn- corrwg U.D., Port Talbot Borough.	Mr. R. Ll. Jones, B.A., D.M.A., County Offices, Quarella Road, Bridgend. Telephone Bridgend 3534-5
NORTH EAST GLAMORGAN Aberdare U.D.: Hirwaun, Cwmdare, Trecynon, Llwydcoed, Gadlys, Aberdare, Abernant, Cwm- bach, Aberaman, Cwmaman, Glynhafod, Aber- cwmboi. Mountain Ash U.D.: Mountain Ash, Perthcelyn, Cefnpennar, Penrhiwceiber, Matthews- town, Ynysboeth, Abercynon. Caerphilly U.D., Gelligaer U.D., Pontypridd U.D.	Mr. T. S. Rees, D.M.A., County Offices, Llewellyn Street, Trecynon, Aberdare. Telephone Aberdare 3018 Mr. T. S. Rees, D.M.A., County Offices, Court House Street, Pontypridd. Telephone Pontypridd 2275-6
SOUTH EAST GLAMORGAN Cardiff R.D., Penarth U.D., Barry B., Cowbridge B. and Cowbridge R.D., Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre R.D.	Mr. R. H. Pope, D.M.A., County Council Offices Queen's Court, Plymouth Street, Cardiff. Telephone Cardiff 28033
WEST GLAMORGAN Neath B., Neath R.D., Gower R.D., Llchwyr U.D., Pontardawe R.D.	Mr. J. D. E. Lewis, 8 Wind Street, Neath. Telephone Neath 2241-2
RHONDDA AREA Rhondda area coincides with the administrative area of the Rhondda Borough.	Dr. R. B. Morley-Davies, Tydfil House, 4 Llewellyn Street, Pentre. Telephone Pentre 2313-4 Pentre 3008-9

