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Contributors

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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
RECEIVED
28 JUL 1959
A.

Hay Rural District Council
Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1958.

Officials.

Medical Officer of Health.....T.C.R.George, M.R.C.S.,
Guildhall, Brecon. L.R.C.P.
T.N.Brecon 26. D.P.H.
Public Health Inspector.....G.G.Evans, M.R.S.H.
M.P.H.I.A.



THE
OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF TEXAS
AUSTIN, TEXAS

1911

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF [illegible]
I, [illegible], County Clerk of said County, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of said County.

1911

[illegible]

1911

Hay Rural District Council

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

1958

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary conditions and the state of the public health in the Hay Rural District during the year 1958.

In the preparation of this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine and I have included comments on all the subjects specifically requested in Circular 22/58 (Wales) by the Welsh Board of Health.

Section 1. General and Vital Statistics.

Area. 39,153 acres.

The Rural District of Hay, which has an area of 39,153 acres, forms part of the County of Breconshire. This district is situated in the northern part of the County, is agricultural in nature with farming as the predominant occupation of the residents. There are no large towns in the area but in the district are two large hospitals, the Mental Hospital at Talgarth and the South Wales Sanatorium at Bronllys.

Inhabited Houses. The number of inhabited houses was 993 giving an average of 3.6 persons per house.

Population.

Census 1931.....	4028.
Census 1951.....	3869.
Estimated Midsummer 1958.....	3640.

The Registrar General's estimated population for the last ten years is shown below:-

<u>1949.</u>	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>	<u>1953.</u>	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1956.</u>	<u>1957.</u>	<u>1958.</u>
3655.	3740.	3657.	3647.	3711.	3680.	3680.	3680.	3640.	3640.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
Legitimate	20	25	45	
Illegitimate	1	0	1	
	21	25	46	12.6

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 16.4. The district rate was therefore much lower than the national average and also, regrettably, very much lower than the deathrate.

Illegitimacy. The number of registered illegitimate births during the year was one.

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 Pop.</u>
	38	31	69	18.9

The corresponding rate for the whole of England and Wales was 11.7. The district rate was therefore much higher than the national average and also, regrettably, much higher than the birthrate.

Still Births. There were two still births registered during the year, giving a rate of 41.7. The national still birth rate was 21.6 per 1000 live and still births.

Total live and still births.....48.

Deaths from special causes.

Infectious disease.....	0.
Respiratory tuberculosis.....	0.
Other forms tuberculosis.....	0.
Cancer.....	9.

Infant Deaths. There was one death registered during the year in a child of under one year of age.

Total mortality rate.....21.8
 Legitimate mortality rate.....0.
 Illegitimate mortality rate.....1.0.
 Neo-Natal mortality rate.....21.8.

Illegitimate Births per cent of total live births.....2.1%.

Maternal Deaths. No deaths during the year could be attributed to childbirth which was very satisfactory.

Maternal Mortality Rate.....0.

Deaths from Special Causes. Males.....38. Females.....51.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	1	0
Malignant neoplasm, lung.....	2	0
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	0	1
Other malignant neoplasms.....	3	2
Leukaemia.....	0	1
Vascular lesions, nervous system....	10	5
Coronary disease.....	4	3
Hypertension with heart disease....	1	2
Other heart disease.....	8	9
Other circulatory disease.....	1	0
Pneumonia.....	0	1
Bronchitis.....	0	1
Other diseases, respiratory system...2		1
Ulcer stomach.....	1	0
Gastritis.....	0	1
Other defined causes.....	2	4
Motor vehicle accidents.....	3	0

The deaths are classified under the headings given in the new Abridged List of Causes of Deaths.

Section.2 General Provisions of Health Services.

Public Health Officers. There was no change in the public health officers during the year, Mr. G. G. Evans, remained as your Public Health Inspector.

Laboratory Facilities.

During the year laboratory facilities were available at Cardiff, Newport, Carmarthen, Swansea, Aberystwyth and Brecon. All water samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford whilst any investigation required in the control of infectious disease was performed by the Public Health Laboratory at Cardiff. All the milk sampling was done by the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford.

Nursing and other facilities. The County Council is responsible for the provision of the ambulance and nursing services. The County also administer the maternity and child welfare clinics where treatment is obtained for minor ailments, eye, dental and orthopaedic defects. Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough is also carried out at these clinics.

Disinfection. In the main the methods used for any required disinfection have been fumigation and spraying.

Hospitals.The hospital needs of the residents of the district for all diseases apart from infectious disease, are provided by the Brecon War Memorial Hospital. A certain number of cases are also admitted to Hereford Hospital, Merthyr Isolation Hospital and Hereford Isolation Hospital receive cases of infectious disease.

For the treatment of smallpox arrangements have been made by the Welsh Board of Health for beds to be available at the Penrhys Hospital, Rhondda.

Section 4. Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supplies.

Owing to the fairly wet weather during the year more water was available and supplies to the villages were adequate to meet the demands.

The Council own 10 water supplies serving the villages of the district and there are 8 private supplies which serve six properties or more. There are 181 supplies serving five dwellings or less and 82 of these are piped supplies; the remainder being either pumps or springs.

Total inspections to water supplies.....20.

Details for each parish are given below:-

Aberllynfi. There was an adequate supply of water to this village during the year. A temporary main was laid from the Gwernyfed Park supply and connected into the Aberllynfi supply to give an alternative source should it be needed in drought periods.

Number of samples.....4. (3 satisfactory, 1 suspicious)
" " "1. (Private source - unsatisfactory)

Bronllys. There are two supplies in this parish. One is owned by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board and serves the Sanatorium and houses attached thereto. The other is owned by the Council and serves most of the remaining properties in the village: the water is collected from springs and is untreated.

There was more water available from the springs to serve the village, and only for a very short period was it necessary to augment it from the Talgarth supply.

A one inch extension of the water main was laid to the Bronllys School and adjoining properties which has given a greatly improved flow and pressure to these properties including the new Cloakroom and Sanitary Accommodation at the School.

There are 99 dwellings served from the Council's supply and there are 13 other small private supplies in the parish.

Number of samples.....0.

Glynfach and Usk Valley portion of Tregoyd & Velindre. There are 10 untreated private supplies in the area; 4 being small piped supplies and the other 6 being open springs.

Number of samples.....0.

Hay Rural. 14 properties in this parish are served from the Council's supply from Llanigon. There are 21 other private supplies and 8 of these are small piped supplies.

Llanigon. The Council own the supply which is collected from springs to a service reservoir and the water is untreated. 32 houses and farms are supplied. There are 8 other small private supplies in the parish and 6 of these are piped. The quantity of water was satisfactory during the year.

Number of samples.....0. (Council supply)
" " "3. (Private source) Unsatisfactory.

The hamlet of Ffordlaes situated in the parish obtains water from a standpipe supplied by a Ram from Llwynfilly Farm. The supply was interrupted on several occasions by failure of the Ram.

A scheme for the improvement of this supply was approved by the Council. This included the installation of a Compound Ram with intake weir at Llwynfilly Farm; the construction of a reservoir of 2,100 gallon capacity and filter tank above the hamlet, and the laying of distribution main. A tender for this work was accepted and the Contractor will be able to commence when Agreements with the landowners concerned have been signed.

Number of samples.....3. (1 satisfactory; 2 unsatisfactory)

Llanelieu. There are only 15 properties in this parish, 10 being in the Wye Valley and 5 in the Usk Valley and all have piped supplies but are from 9 different sources.

Number of samples.....0.

Llyswen. There are 66 dwellings in the parish and 56 have water laid on. The Council own the supply serving the village, water being collected from springs and is untreated. The water was adequate to meet the demand during the year.

Number of samples.....13. (7 satisfactory, 1 suspicious, 5 unsatis.)

A larger area of ground around the Llandefalle Road storage tank was fenced off to prevent surface pollution and the fencing around the other sources was also attended to.

Pipton. There are 11 private supplies in this parish of which 8 are piped supplies serving some 12 dwellings; the other dwellings being served by pumps.

Talgarth. There are three public supplies in the parish; Two are owned by the Council and the other by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board serving the Mid-Wales Mental Hospital and adjacent dwellings.

The larger of the Council's supplies serves some 370 dwellings in Talgarth and there are 17 additional properties served from stand pipes. One portion of this supply is received as an overflow from the Mental Hospital's supply and the whole is sand filtered and chlorinated; the other portion is from springs in Llanelieu parish and these are connected to a reservoir which, in times of drought, may be connected to the brook, and on such occasions this source is also chlorinated.

There was an adequate supply of water during the year.

Regular cleaning of the sand filters is carried out.

Number of samples.....1 (Satisfactory)

" " "3. (Private sources - satisfactory)

The Council also own a supply in this parish which serves the hamlet of Trefecca. The supply was adequate during the year. Chlorination is carried out, by the drip feed method. No. of samples.....0.

There are 39 private supplies in this parish of which 27 are piped. There were 3 samples from private sources taken and these were satisfactory.

Tregoyd & Velindre. Of the 122 dwellings in this parish, 104 have water laid on and 5 are served from standpipes. Most of these properties are served from the Council's sources at Velindre, and includes the supply to Gwernyfed Secondary Modern School.

The new filter and filtered water storage tank were put into operation at Velindre waterworks during the year, and a second filter will be constructed in 1959, and the original water tank will be covered with a new roof. Copper screens for filtering the intake water have been fitted and a good filtrate is being given from the works.

No. of samples...10. (5 satisfactory, 2 suspicious, 3 unsatisfactory)

Area Water Supply Scheme.

The Consulting Civil Engineers prepared final drawings for this scheme including the lines and levels of the proposed mains, sites for intake works, pumping stations and reservoirs. All drawings and documents were sent to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval, as well as to the Breconshire and Radnorshire County Councils, and the observations of these Departments is awaited.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Llyswen. Revised plans were prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme for Llyswen and a Public Inquiry was held. Tenders will be invited as soon as final approval from the Ministry is received.

Three Cocks. All levelling for the proposed sewerage and sewage disposal scheme was carried out during the year and some of the design work was also commenced.

Glasbury. The Council decided against a joint sewerage scheme with the Painscastle R.D.C. for one works to serve properties on both sides of the River Wye and the Glasbury (Breconshire) scheme has been held in abeyance for the time being.

Talgarth. Some reconstruction at the Talgarth Sewage Disposal Works is planned and is to receive early attention.

Velindre. The new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for this village is working satisfactorily and several more properties were connected to the sewers.

Number of visits to drainage work.....34.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse is collected once weekly in Talgarth, Bronllys, Llyswen, Pipton, Aberllynfi, Tregoyd and Velindre, Llanigon and the parish of Hay Rural. The only parishes not included in the scheme are Llanellieu and Glynfach. Refuse is collected by the Council's own lorry and disposed of by controlled tipping, the work and staff being under the control of the Public Health Inspector.

Salvage. Collection of waste paper and scrap metal was also undertaken. Some 17 tons of baled mixed waste paper and 1 ton 15 cwts of scrap tins were sent away during the year. The Ministry of Supply's scheme for the purchase of scrap tins and other metal from domestic refuse was brought to an end in October.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area. The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by the Public Health Inspector and the following details give information relating to this work.

Nuisances.

Number of complaints received.....	27.
Number of complaints investigated.....	27.
Number of premises visited.....	27.
Number of premises revisited.....	11.
Number of preliminary notices served.....	0.
Number of abatement notices served.....	0.

Houses let in Lodgings. It is not considered that any of the houses in the district are of such a nature as to require control under byelaws made under Section 6 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Offensive Trades. There are no offensive trades in the district.

Common Lodging Houses. There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Licensed Premises. There are 15 licensed houses, 1 licensed club and 3 off-license premises in the district. 13 of the licensed premises are highly satisfactory from the sanitary standpoint. Alterations and improvements to one premises were completed during the year.

Number of inspections.....33.

Factories.

Number of factories in the district.....	15.
Number of inspections made.....	19.
Number of defects found,	
(a) Sanitary Conveniences defective.....	1.
(b) Want of cleanliness.....	2.
(c) Other offences.....	0.

All these defects were remedied.

Camping Sites. There is no recognised camping site in the district for which a licence is necessary.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Number of visits made.....	8.
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Eradication of Bed Bugs and Steps taken to combat infestation.

Any premises found as a result of complaint or inspection to be infested with bed bugs or other vermin would be treated with D.D.T. preparations. No premises were found to be so infested during the year.

Rodent Control. One full time operator is employed who works under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector. This operator is also similarly employed by the Hay Urban Council and Painscastle Rural District Council.

Number of premises inspected during the year.....	635.
Number of premises found infested.....	114.
Number of premises treated by rodent operator.....	81.
Number treated by occupier.....	33.
Estimated number of rats killed during the year.....	1159.
Number of dead rats actually recovered.....	336.
The sewers in Talgarth were baited in May. No takes were recorded.	

Legal Proceedings. No legal proceedings were undertaken by the Council during the year.

Section 5. Housing. At the end of 1958 there were 62 applicants on the Housing List for Council houses in each parish as follows:-

Parish	Number of applicants	Number living in rooms	No. of bedrooms required			
			1	2	3	4
Aberllynfi and Glasbury	9	2	2	5	1	1
Bronllys	17	5	1	9	7	0
Llanigon	3	0	0	3	0	0
Talgarth	29	7	5	14	9	1
Velindre	2	0	1	1	0	0
Llyswen	2	0	0	1	1	0
Totals	62	14	9	33	18	2

There are 162 Council houses in the district. No houses were constructed by the Council during the year, but a further 30 houses for Talgarth were being planned for erection in 1959.

There was 1 private house erected in 1958, making a total of 39 erected since the war.

Ten applications were received during the year for grant-aid under the Housing Acts for improvement to existing houses, and these were all approved. One applicant withdrew from the scheme at a later date. During the year ten improvements were completed, but four of these were for schemes approved in 1957, and one in 1956.

5 farmhouses and 1 farm cottage were improved during the year with grants under the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Acts.

Number of house to house inspections.....39.

Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 (Article 31)

1. The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation.....84.
2. The number of houses the defects of which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.....3.
3. The number of representations made to the local authority with a view to (a) the serving of notice requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders.....1.
4. The number of notices served requiring the execution of works.....0.
5. The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice.....0.
6. The number of demolition or closing orders made.....0.
7. The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (2) of section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930.....1.
8. Number of houses demolished.....0.

Section 6, Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk. There are two dealers registered in the district who sell T.T. pasteurised and sterilised milk. There are no dairies registered. 4 samples were taken from the dealers in 1958 and these were satisfactory.

Meat. There is one slaughterhouse registered in the district. All condemned meat is collected by a Hereford firm who deals in waste food products. All other condemned foods are disposed of in the Council's refuse tip after spraying with fluorescent stain.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or Part

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed if known						
Number inspected	101	-	-	1118	96	-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	46	7	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	5.9	-	-	4.0	7.2	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat ment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Meat Condemned. Cattle...43 lbs. Other animals...91 lbs.

Other Foods Condemned. Tins....34. Food(weight)...58 lbs.

Other Foods

Food Preparation Rooms(including bakehouses)

Number of inspections made.....14.

Ice Cream Premises.

Number of visits made by Public Health Inspector.....37.

No manufacture of ice cream is carried out in the district, there being 12 retailers. No samples of ice cream were examined during the year.

Fish and Fried Fish Shops.

Number of inspections made by Public Health Inspector.....16.

There is one fried fish premises in the district.

Shops. There are 25 shops which deal in food in the district and may be classified as follows:-

Grocers.....	10.
Grocer/Confectioners.....	2.
Grocer/Cafe.....	1.
Grocer/Bakers.....	1.
Bakers.....	1.
Cafes.....	1.
Greengrocers.....	2.
Confectioners/Tobacconists.....	4.
Butchers.....	2.
Fish and Chips.....	1.
Fishmongers.....	0.

The district is also served by such tradesmen from contiguous areas. There are no dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Orders, 1949, but 2 supplementary licences are issued to Milk Dealers who are registered in the Borough of Brecon.

All condemned foods are sprayed with fluorescent powder and buried in the Council's refuse tips, with the exception of the condemned meat from the slaughterhouse which is collected by a Hereford firm which deals in waste food products.

Number of inspections under Shops Acts.....28.

Section 7. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The following cases of notifiable infectious disease were reported to me during the year.

Measles.....2 cases.

Both of these cases were nursed at home. The district therefore remained remarkably free from infectious disease. No death was caused by infectious disease during the year.

Venereal Disease. The County Council has an agreement with the General and Eye Hospital, Swansea for the treatment of such cases. The tracing of contacts and the following up of defaulters is the responsibility of the County Council.

Tuberculosis.

The following details show the position as regards tuberculosis in 1958 and recent years.

Number of cases on register at commencement of year.....38.
 Number of fresh cases notified during the year.....13.
 Number of cases removed due to recovery.....1.
 Number of cases removed due to removal from district.....3.
 Number of cases removed due to death.....0.
 Number of cases left on register at end of year.....47.

The number of cases notified during recent years is shown below:

1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.
6	4	4	10	10	10	9	3	10	2	13

It must be pointed out that, of these 13 new cases admitted to the register during the year, 8 were transfers from other districts and one was the re-admission of a patient who had previously been removed from the register. This left a total of 4 cases occurring in the district during the year.

Diphtheria Immunisation. As a result of the new Health Act, the County Council were responsible for the immunisation of children against diphtheria and details for the district will be found in the annual report of the County Medical Officer.

Facilities for immunisation are now available at the ordinary Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and also at the schools during the school medical inspections.

It is pleasing to see that the incidence of diphtheria continues to fall. The object of the immunisation campaign however, remains the same: to secure the immunisation of not less than 75% of babies before their first birthday. It must be remembered that diphtheria still kills and that elimination of the disease is conditional upon an adequate level of immunisation. If parents leave their children unprotected there may be a return of diphtheria outbreaks.

Yours faithfully,

T.C.R. George,

Medical Officer of Health

San Francisco

All containers used are sprayed with 10% formalin solution and
in the Council's report with the exception of the
containers used from the disinfectant which is collected by a
sanitary disposal unit in each house.

San Francisco and Control of Infectious Diseases

The following cases of notifiable infectious diseases were
reported to me during the year.

Diphtheria..... 2 cases.

Both of these cases were removed to hospital and
therefore remained completely free from infectious diseases. No deaths
were caused by infectious diseases during the year.

The County Council has an agreement with the General
Hospital, San Francisco, for the treatment of such
cases. The tracing of contacts and the following up of delinquents is
the responsibility of the County Council.

Table 1

The following details show the position as regards
diphtheria in 1938 and recent years.

Number of cases on register at commencement of year.....	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
Number of fresh cases notified during the year.....	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Number of cases removed due to recovery.....	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Number of cases removed due to removal from register.....	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Number of cases removed due to death.....	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Number of cases left on register at end of year.....	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

The number of cases notified during recent years is shown below:

If it be pointed out that of these 13 new cases admitted to
the register during the year, 8 were transferred from other districts
and one was the re-admission of a patient who had previously been
removed from the register, this falls a total of 4 cases, recorded in the
district during the year.

As a result of the new health act, the County
Council were responsible for the immunisation
of children against diphtheria and details for the district will be
found in the annual report of the County Medical Officer.

Notified for immunisation are now available
at the County Laboratory and Child Welfare Clinics and also at the
schools under the school medical inspection.

It is pleasing to see that the incidence of
diphtheria continues to fall. The object of the immunisation campaign
is to secure the immunity of the population of the district. It is
not possible to say that the disease is
conditional upon an adequate level of immunisation. It is possible
that children suspected there may have received diphtheria
antitoxin.

Medical Officer of Health