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Contributors

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14 JUN 1938

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Hay Urban District.

1937.

ISSUED MAY, 1938.

HAY :
H. R. GRANT & SON, PRINTERS.



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Printed by the District Council

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URBAN DISTRICT OF HAY, BRECONSHIRE.

To the Chairman and Members of the
HAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MAY, 1938.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your information my ANNUAL
REPORT for the year 1937.

W. W. WILSON, M.B.

13 Broad Street,
HAY.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health :

W. W. Wilson, M.B., Ch.B.,

Physician to Isolation Hospital.

Telephone : Hay 13.

Sanitary Inspector :

Wm. D. Morgans, A.R.San.I.,

And Special Diploma of Royal Sanitary Institute in Inspec-
tion of Meat and other Foods.

Telephone : Hay 79.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	372
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population 1937					1,371
Number of inhabited houses, end of 1937, according to					
Rate books	...	...	...	...	444
Rateable Value	..	...	...	...	£6,176
Sum represented by a penny rate			...		£23 6s. 9d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There are no large industries in the Town, and the occupation of the inhabitants is such as is consistent with the small industries of a Market Town in an agricultural district. No occupation has an adverse influence on public health.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.	Birth-rate per 1000 estimated resident population 10.2
Live Births	Legitimate	12	8	4	
	Illegitimate	2	1	1	
Still Births	Legitimate	0	0	0	Rate per 1000 births
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	(Live & Still Births) 0
Deaths	-	18	10	8	Death-rate per 1000 estimated population 13.1

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total (live & still births).
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
No. 30 Other Puerperal Causes	0	0
Total	0	0

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :

All infants per 1000 live births	...	...	71.4
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births			83.3
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births			0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	3
Deaths from Measles „ „	...	...	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		...	0
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)		...	0
Deaths from other causes—			

Tuberculosis, Non-respiratory	1	Senility	...	1
Heart Disease	...	Cerebral Hæmorrhage		1
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	Other Defined Causes	...	1

*Section B.***GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.***(a) Laboratory Facilities.*

Arrangements are made with the Hereford County Laboratory for Bacteriological examination of Swabs and Sputa. Specimens of sputa can also be examined under arrangements with the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

There is no local Ambulance in the District. Ambulances at Hereford and Brecon are available.

(c) Nursing.

No changes have taken place in Nursing arrangements in the District.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.

There are no new treatment centres or clinics.

(e) Hospitals: Public and Voluntary.

The Isolation Hospital provided by your Council has proved adequate for cases of Infectious diseases which cannot properly be isolated at home.

*Section C.***SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.****1 (i.) Water.**

Two samples of the supply were submitted for Bacteriological and Chemical examination during the year. The report of the analyses showed that the Llangwathan source of supply was not entirely satisfactory and three further samples from this source were analysed. The results showed the pollution to be of an intermittent character and a complete inspection was made of the source and arrangements made for the carrying out of improvements to the collecting tanks, and the cutting off of the polluted supply. Your Council has in hand a scheme for the filtration of this part of the supply which it is hoped will render it wholesome.

The quantity remains as in previous years and it was found necessary to restrict the supply for eight weeks in September and October.

(ii.) Drainage and Sewerage.

Upon a complaint made by the Herefordshire County Council a Ministry of Health Inquiry was held in October into the present system of Sewage Disposal in the District and it is understood that a proper scheme of Sewage Disposal is now being drawn up.

2. Rivers and Streams.

Some improvements were carried out to prevent pollution of the Dulas Brook near Newport Terrace, and verbal notice was given to offenders to prevent pollution by dumping of refuse into the Brook.

3 (i.) Closet Accommodation.

The majority of the Closets in the Town are Water-closets connected to the Sewers. There are four Pail Closets situated in the out-lying parts of the District and efforts are being made for their conversion at an early date.

(ii.) Public Cleansing.

House refuse is collected and removed twice weekly under a working arrangement with a Local Contractor. The streets are swept and scavenged daily. Refuse is disposed of at a secluded site on the outskirts of the Town and during the year it was found necessary to extend the area of the tip and to extend the culvert providing drainage for the site. "Controlled Tipping" is being carried out and little nuisance is created.

(iii.) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Number of Inspections made.

As a Result of Notifiable Infectious Disease	...	...	1
As a Result of Complaints	...	...	21
Slaughterhouses	...	...	84
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	36
Factories and Workshops	...	...	17
Schools	...	...	4

Inspections made under the Public Health Acts and Bye-laws.

To clear obstructed Drains	...	...	21
To repair defective Drains	...	...	7
Defective W.C. Pans and Flushing Apparatus...	...	...	12
To cleanse filthy and dirty W.C.	...	...	5
To cleanse Pail Closets	...	...	2
To cleanse Cesspools	...	...	2
To repair defective Cesspool	...	...	1
To cleanse Manure Pit and Stables...	...	...	17
To cleanse Verminous Premises	...	...	5
To cleanse Pig-styes	...	...	1
To whitewash and cleanse Bakehouse	...	...	8
To whitewash and cleanse Cowshed	...	...	12
Defective Troughing and Downspouts	...	...	15
Insufficient Paving to Backyards	...	...	2
Water Supply, Defective, etc.	...	...	10
To remove foul accumulations	...	...	3
Surface Water Drainage	...	...	2
Investigating Complaints of Dampness	...	...	4
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	4
Choked Watercourses	...	...	3

Pollution of River and Streams	...	...	...	4
Dangerous Walls	...	...	...	6
Rat Infestation	...	...	...	2
Establishment of Fried Fish Shop	...	...	...	4
Public Conveniences and Urinals	...	...	...	3
Unsound Food	...	...	...	1
Nuisance on Highway	...	...	...	4
Total Inspections made				323

Result of the above Inspections :

Nuisances detected	...	...	...	102
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	24
Abatement (Statutory) Notices served	...	...	...	8
Verbal Notices given	...	...	...	70
Written Notice under the Factory and Workshop Act and P.H. Act 1936	...	...	...	1
Notice of wasting Water	...	...	...	2
Premises Disinfected	...	...	...	1
Premises Disinfested	...	...	...	2

Of the above 100 were abated leaving 2 yet to be dealt with.

Length of old and new drain tested... 50 ft.

(iv.) **Shops.**

Repeated inspection under the Shops Act 1912—1936 have been made and the Sanitary conveniences appear adequate. Verbal Notice has been given where found necessary for the heating of the premises.

(v.) **Smoke Abatement.**

There are no manufactories or industries liable to give rise to smoke nuisance and no action has been found necessary.

(vi.) **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are no Public or Private Swimming Baths in the District. A pool in the River Wye is made use of by the Public and no action has been taken to ensure the purity of the water.

(vii.) **Eradication of Bed-Bugs.**

	Infested.	Disinfested.
Number of Council Houses	0	0
Number of other Houses	2	2

Disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority upon discovery or report of infested premises. Sulphur candles are used in the disinfestation of premises and advice is given to tenants regarding cleansing and the prevention of infestation.

4. **Schools.**

The Schools have been periodically inspected and the water-supply, water-closet and lavatory accommodation are sufficient. A written Notice was served for the cleansing of lavatory accommodation at the Council School and the work was immediately carried out.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 8 Factories and 17 Workshops on the Register
There are no workplaces in the District.

Number of new Workshops Registered ... 0

Number of Workshops closed ... 0

One written Notice has been served for the cleansing of one workshop and verbal notice given at the Statutory periods for the cleansing and limewashing of other workshops.

Section D.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 92

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 113

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 35

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 50

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 0

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 2

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

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 0

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

(a).—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930:

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

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

(a) By owners ... 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 0

- (1) — Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 20
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners 20
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 0
 - (c).—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 0
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0
 - (d).—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :
 - (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0
 - (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit 0
4. **Housing Act, 1935.—Overcrowding :—**
- (a).— (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 12
 - (ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... 12
 - (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 65½
 - (b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 2
 - (c).— (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 1
 - (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 8½
 - (d).—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding 0
 - (e).—The erection of a number of suitable houses to relieve the above overcrowding is desirable and it is hoped the Council will give serious consideration to this matter.

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**(a) Milk Supply.**

Number of persons registered during the year as

Milk Retailers 2

Number of Dairies erected 2

There are in the District three Premises registered where Milk is produced and 7 registered purveyors. No designated milk under the Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936 is produced in the Area.

There is an adequate supply of Milk for the District. Fifteen samples of Milk were submitted for Bacteriological examination and with the exception of two samples all reached a high standard of purity. The two dirty samples were produced outside the District and the results of the examination were forwarded to the Health Officers of the areas concerned. No samples were taken for Tubercle Bacilli Examination.

Frequent visits to the Cowsheds and Dairies has brought about some improvement in their cleanliness, ventilation and lighting but much is to be desired in the general structure of the cowsheds. Notice was given for the erection of two new Dairies and the work was carried out.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

84 visits of Inspection have been paid to the two Licensed Slaughterhouses and Notices have been given for the limewashing and cleansing at the Statutory period.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed (Approx.) ...	60	150	30	624	120
Number Inspected ...	40	120	21	500	100
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis :</i>					
Whole Carcase condemned ...	...	...	...	2	...
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	5	...	8	9
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	2.5%	4.2%	...	1.6%	9%
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>					
Whole Carcases condemned ..	..	...	...	...	...
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	...	...	...	...	1
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis ...	...	...	...	...	1%

Twelve visits of inspection have been made at Meat Shops. Shops, Stalls and Vehicles have been found satisfactory. Verbal Notice was given in the case of one Meat Shop for improvement of the ventilation.

(c) Adulteration, &c.

Sampling and action under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, is carried out by the County Authority.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological examination of Food.

Milk Samples for Bacteriological examination are forwarded to the Agricultural Department University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

Section F.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

General—

There was an epidemic of Influenza of a mild nature in January and February which necessitated the closure of the Schools for a period. Except for one case of Erysipelas, there have been no cases of notifiable infectious disease during the year.

There are no facilities for the disinfection of articles of clothing of persons exposed to infection other than those which can be carried out in their homes.

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
during 1937—**

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Erysipelas	1	0

TUBERCULOSIS. New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—								
1—4								
5—14								
15—24								
25—34								
35—44							1	
45—54								
55—64	1							
65 and upwards								
Totals	1						1	

It has not come to my knowledge that any person suffering from Tuberculosis has not been notified.

No actions have been required under Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925; nor under Sec. 62 Public Health Act, 1925. One dwelling house was disinfected after the removal of a case of Tuberculosis.



