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Contributors

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WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH. RECEIVED 25 SEP 1953 P.

BOROUGH OF LAMPETER

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 1952

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

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I. Morgan Watkin, Ph.D.(Lond.)., M.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.(Wales).

SANITARY INSPECTOR:

D. J. Davies, A.R.S.I.



Your Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Lampeter Borough Council.

It gives me pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of the Health Department for the year ended December 31st, 1952.

The vital statistics show that, whereas thirty nine persons died, only thirty one were born. As in the previous year, heart disease accounted for the greatest number of deaths - a feature which is common to the United Kingdom in general.

Only two cases of infectious disease - both of a minor character - were notified during the year. Two new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were also reported.

Following repeated complaints by the police and others, it became necessary to institute proceedings under the Lunacy Acts against an old lady who was keeping the neighbourhood awake at night. An order for the removal, under the National Assistance Act was obtained in the case of another lady who was unable to devote to herself and was not receiving from others, proper care and attention. The latter was removed to the Welfare Home.

Following complaints by Ministry of Food enforcement officers I inspected, in company with the Sanitary Inspector, the food supply of a certain hotel in the town. As a consequence, I found it necessary to seize over a hundrodweight of foodstuffs which appeared to me unfit for human consumption. There was reason to believe that some of the unfit food had already been served to customers and that the remainder would, in due course, pursue the same path. The procedure laid down under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, was followed and notice was given to the person in whose possession the food was found that it was intended to have the evidence considered by a Justice of the Peace. At the hearing, the defendant did not put in an appearance and the Justice found the case proved and ordered the entire quantity to be destroyed. Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2016 with funding from Wellcome Library

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The Ministry of Food informed me that it intended taking legal proceedings against the defendant <u>inter alia</u> for alleged contravention of the Food (Waste) Regulations. Although the depositions were prepared, no proceedings have, so far, been instituted. Had not the Ministry of Food stated that it intended taking legal proceedings, I should, in view of the serious nature of the offence, have brought the matter to the attention of your Council and to the County Council as a Food and Drugs' authority with a recommendation to prosecute.

A number of housing inspections was carried out during the year and official representations were made in respect of those found unfit for human habitation.

A more detailed commentary on various aspects will be found in the ensuing pages.

As in the previous year, the report of the Sanitary Inspector is appended as a separate item.

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SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

0

Area (in acres)	••	••	••	••	••	••	1,754
Population (Consus,	1931)	••			••		1,742
Population (mid-year	r esti	mato,	1952	2)	••		1,921
Number of inhabited	house	s (Co	nsus,	1931)	••	521
Rateable value (at .	lpril	lst,	1952)	•••		••	£10,053
Sum represented by	a ponn	y rat	e				£40

And all the second of the seco	Total	Male	Female
Number of registered live births (Legitimate (Illegitimate	30 1	18 1	12
Number of registered still births (Legitimate (Illegitimate	-	-	Ξ
Number of registered deaths	39	24	15
Number of deaths of women ascribed to childbirth	-	-	
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year (Legitimate (Illegitimate	-		-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 month (Legitimate (Illogitmate	1	-	-

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GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

- (a) No ante-natal or post-natal clinic is held in the district by the local health
 authority. Expectant and nursing mothers receive medical advice from their own medical attendants.
- (b) An infant welfare clinic is held at Lampeter once a fortnight.
- (c) The domiciliary midwifery service is carried out by the district nurses who are also state registered midwives.
- (d) A health visitor covers the Lampeter area.
- (c) Home nursing is in the hands of the district nurses.
- (f) Vaccination is carried out by the person's own medical attendant but immunisation against diphtheria is performed partly by the former and partly by medical officers of the local health authority.
- (g) An ambulance is stationed at Lampeter.
- (h) Arrangements for the prevention of illness consist in periodic talks and advice given by medical officers and the health visitor of the local health authority. Care and after-care is in the hands of the district nurses and of the health visitor. Tuberculosis cases are also followed up by the Chest Physician's health visitor.
- (i) Domestic help is provided by suitable persons engaged locally.
- (j) The borough of Lampeter lies almost mid-way between the towns of Aberystwyth and Carmarthen in both of which general hospitals exist. The former is under the aegis of the Mid-Wales Hospital Management Committee and the latter under its West Wales counterpart. Public health laboratories of the Medical Research Council are also to be found in both centres. The infectious diseases' hospital for the area is at Tanybwlch, close to Aberystwyth.
- (k) The central core of the Health Services is still the general practitioner. There are four doctors providing general medical services in the borough.



	- / -	
Registrar General's Code Number	<u>Causes of Death</u>	Number of Deaths
. 1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	2
2	Tuberculosis, other	2 1
3	Syphilitic disease	<u> </u>
1.	Diphtheria	_
75	Whooping cough	-
6	Meningococcal infections	
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-
8	Measles	_
123456789	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	_
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1
14	Other lymphatic and malignant neoplasms	_
15	Leukaenia, aleukaenia	-
16	Diabetes	_
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	3
18	Coronary disease, angina	3 4
19	Hypertension with heart disease	-
20	Other heart disease	17
21	Other circulatory disease	2
22	Influenza	-
23	Pneumonia	-
24	Bronchitis	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-
31	Congenital malformations	
32	Other defined and illdefined diseases	3
33	Notor vehicle accidents	
34	All other accidents	-
35	Suicide	-
36	Homicide and operations of war	-

Total 39

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INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

9

Cholera		••	••	••	••	••	••	Nil
Diphtheria	• •						••	Nil
Dysentery (amoebic an	nd bac:	illary	r)	••			••	Nil
Encephalitis			••	••		••	••	Nil
Erysipelas		0.6					•••	Nil
Food poisoning			••		••		••	Nil
Malaria		••				••		Nil
Measles	••			••		••		2
Meningococcal meningi	tis.	••			••	••		Nil
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	••	••	••			••	Nil
Paratyphoid fever	••	••			••			Nil
Plague		••	••	••				Nil
Pneumonia (acute prim	ary a	nd acu	te ir	nfluen	zal)		•••	Nil
Poliomyelitis		••						Nil
Puerperal pyrexia	••			••	••			Nil
Relapsing fever	••		••	••		••		Nil
Scarlet fever			••					Nil
Smallpox		••	••	••	••		••	Nil
Typhoid fever	•••	••	••		••			Nil
Typhus fever	••		••					Nil
Whooping cough	••	••	•••				••	Nil

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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

After repeated attempts had been made to improve the conditions under which an 23 old lady of eighty was living alone, it was found imporative, when her health was deteriorating, for a local medical practitioner and myself to apply for an order for her removal to the Welfare Home on the ground that she was unable to devote to herself and was not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention. A Justice of the Peace who considered the evidence found the case proved and granted the order for The order was made for three weeks under the National Assistance removal. (Amendment) Act, 1951. At the expiration of this period the patient voluntarily remained at the Home for several further weeks. Her brother had, incidentally, been a patient at the Home for some years. After the removal of a large quantity of garbage from the lady's house and after a thorough cleaning, it was decided, now that the lady's health had improved following adequate nutrition at the Welfare Home, to allow her to return to her own homestead. The subsequent history of the case will be referred to in the next Annual Report.

GENERAL

Although there are imperfections here and there in the sanitary sphere, the health of the inhabitants of the Borough as a whole continues to be good.

I. MORGAN WATKIN. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Cardiganshire Joint District Councils, Swyddfa'r Sir, (County Office), Marine Terrace, ABERYSTWYTH. August, 1953.

MATIONAL ABSISTANCE ACE, 1948

3. Miner repeated attompts had been made to improve the conditions where which as all into of eighty was living alone, it was found incornetive, when her health was deteringenting, for a local medical prescriptions and arealt to exply for an order is not reserved to the billers have on the ground that she was washed to devote to her and are and the she was washed to devote to her and are and the she was another to involve to her indevote the ground that and area and attention. A function of the reserved to the transmit prescription and and attention. A function of the reserved the articles have a water for the sector when any and attention. A function of the sector who are and the area washed the articles have a water for the sector when any and attention. A function of the sector present of the function of the sector when a set a under the functional feature for the sector when a set a under the functional feature of the sector present of the functional for the sector when and the period the period the articles of the sector present of the period the period the period the sector of the s

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTHAN

BOROUGH OF LAMPETER.

Your Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my contribution to the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for the year ended 31st December, 1952.

D. J. Davies.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Sanitary circumstances in the area.

1. Closet accommodation in the Torn.

One of these pail systems is not situated within reasonable distance of the Public Sewer, and the other one is situated within the distance but it is below the level of the ground sewer.

2. Number of various closets and cesspools which are situated on the fringe of the Town where the Public Sewers are not available.

All the houses in this area are supplied with fresh water from the Town Main with exception of three as two of these houses are situated on the high level with insufficient pressure to supply the extremities of such high level although they are adequately provided with supply from deep pumps and the other house is not within reasonable distance of the Town Water Main though it is similarly provided as the other two just mentioned.

3. Scavenging.

Domestic Refuse of the Town and of the above area is collected twice weekly and Trade Refuse by Contract all of which is dumped at the Tip and controlled by constant manual labour, and all abnoxious matter is destroyed by incinerator.

Empty tins are collected bi-weekly and eventually sold as scrap.



Street Cleansing. of Town Main Roads Twice weekly. Street cleansing of Town Unclassified Roads Once weekly. Street cleansing of Town Main Roads every Sunday in July, August and September.

Number of various kinds of closets and cesspools situated in the Country Districts.

All houses in this area are chiefly dependent on wells and pumps with the exception of the following, namely:-

Falcondale Mansion. Four farms. One smallholding. Seven dwelling houses

which are supplied with piped private supply by gravitation.

One children's Home is supplied direct from the Town Water Main.

All the houses with cesspools are provided with Rotary Pumps for pumping water from deep wells.

Scavenging.

Household tins in this area are collected monthly.

Sanitary inspection of area.

Number of Inspections of Dwelling houses	. 12
Number of Inspections of Milk Carts	almost daily
Number of Inspections of Workshops, Bakehouses, and cafes	. 84
Number of Inspections of Slaughterhouse	. Daily
Number of Inspections of Meat Shops	.almost daily
Number of Inspections of schools	. 8
Muriber of Inspections of reservoir	. Daily
Number of Inspections of Olwen Well	periodically
Number of Inspections of Water Sources.	. 12
Number of inspections of refuse tips	- 52
Number of Inspections of sever ditches	. 6
Numper of Inspections of Mart Premises	almost daily
Runber of inspections of Public Conveniences	. Daily
Number of Inspections of Public Parks	. Daily
Humber of Inspections of Fish shops	. 52
Tested new drains with snoke	. 160'
Drains repaired	. 3
New street gullies provided	. 4
Blocked drains released	. 17
	•



Rats and Mice Destruction Pests Act, 1949.

1 part time Rodent Operator under supervision of the Sanitary Inspector

Number of business premises treated	12
Number of private dwelling houses	7
Number of Public Sewers	2
Number of Refuse Tips	
Number of Public Abattoir	
Number of inspections made	
Estimated number of rats killed during the year 1,69	

The pest department of the County Agricultural Committee co-operated with the local Public Health Department in the inspection of thirteen farms and twelve smallholdings in the Borough with successful results and all farms and smallholdings were visited and treatments were arranged by owners direct with the County Pest Department.

At the moment the infestation of rats within the Borough of Lampeter is well under control and every reported case of infestation is being dealt with immediately.

Milk Supply.

There are two producer Retailers who are also retailing pasteurised milk as well which is supplied in bulk from the Milk Marketing Board, Felinfach, and is being bottled at their respective dairies. There is also one distributor of Pasteurised Milk only, supplied from the same source and bottled at his own dairy.

The sampling of local milk is now undertaken at regular intervals by the County Agriculture Committee.

One new milk room was built for bottling purposes and was provided with all necessary equipment.

Ice Crean.

The bacteriological quality of the ice crean continues to improve.

Number of registered	l dealers	7
Number of registered	l manufacturers	2
Number of registered	l complete cold mixed	1
Number of samples to		35



The Certificates of the Public Analyst showed that -

27	samples	were	in	grade	1.	
4	samples	were	in	grade	2.	
4	samples	were	in	grade	3.	

1 new Model Ice-cream room was built.

Inspection of Meat and other foods. Lampeter Abattoir.

Number of animals killed during the year

Cattle.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep & Lanbs.	Total.
1,145	1,001	1,047	6,182	9,375
Tuberculosis only Whole pig carcase	y. Number of who	le carcases conde	of cattle emned 13 , 1 3	30,227 lbs. 6,034 lbs. 121 lbs. 734 lbs.
Ox Offals	•••••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		206 1bs.
Total weight of a	noat condemned at	Abattoir	•••••	37,322 lbs.

NOTE. 10 of 13 T.B. Carcases were Re-actors. Fortunately no cases of CYSTICERUS BOVIS was discovered at the Abattoir during the year.

. Meat Inspections (excluding Abattoir)

Condemnations.

Preserved canned meat products	3	28 lbs.
Wet fish		3 1bs.
1 dressed chicken		51 1bs.
		118 1bs.
1 leg of pork		193 1bs.
Cooked imported ham		47 1bs.
Imported bacon		106 lbs.
Canned and miscellaneous food	other than meat	304 1bs.
In the public determines into her	Total	631 lbs.

The transporting of meat from local depot to the various groups continues satisfactory and the whole premises are line washed at regular intervals. The time spent on meat inspections continued to be considerable and very long hours are involved which would appear unnecessary if killing were spread out during the week and all the condemned meat is treated with napthalene green to avoid any possibility of the neat being used for human consumption.

There are two registered Fish and chip shops and both are being kept highly satisfactory.



There are four registered bakehouses, two are of a modern type and the other two are satisfactory and are all kept under hygienic conditions.

New sanitary conveniences and lavatory for gents and ladies were provided at C.W.S. Branch by verbal request.

10. Notices served under the Public Health Act.

11. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year.

12. Housing Statistics.

Number of houses owned by Local Authority	33
Number of flats owned by Local Authority	4
Number of new houses erected during the year -	
By Local Authority	Nil
By other bodies or persons	

It appears that in recent years private enterprise building has been decreasing and at present persons requiring houses whether or not they had the means to build a house for themselves were often more inclined to apply for a Council House which they could obtain at a subsidised rent.

In the public interest more houses should be owner occupied and it is unreasonable that people in the higher income groups should tenant Council Houses at subsidised rent.

Since the midsummer of 1952, 26 Unity Houses, 25 Traditional houses and 6 flats for the aged have been in course of erection and at the time of writing this report 22 Unity Houses have been completed and are now occupied, and seven families from the unfit dwelling houses have already moved to the new houses and if all goes well it is full anticipated that the remaining 35 houses now in course of erection will be completed before the 31st December, 1953, and families now living in unfit dwellings have been allocated a new house.



13. Unhealthy areas.

There are no unhealthy areas within the Borough.

Number of houses demolished Nil. Byelaws to -

- (a) New buildings Yes.
- (b) Tents and vans Nil unless there is a public nuisance.
- (c) Houses let in lodgings Nil

Rivers and streams No action was found necessary.

Drainage and Severage.

There are three sewage outfalls, one discharges direct into the River Dulas and thence to the River Teify, and the other two discharge into open trenches and both trenches run in the open for approximately 300 yards and then discharge into the River Creuddyn which runs eventually into the River Teify, and in order to avoid any nuisances both of the said mentioned, open trenches are being thoroughly cleansed annually. I may state that the Lampeter Borough Council and Llanybyther-Newcastle Emlyn R.D.C. are at the moment contemplating to proceed with a joint new sewage disposal scheme which is in a dire need and if this project be perfected Lampeter will be then unquestionably a Model Town because it is free already from slums, back to back houses, and not a single case of real poverty is in existence.

14. Mater.

There is a satisfactory supply in the Town and in the fringe area with exception of those three dwelling houses which I have already stated the reason and the supply is augmented during the abnormal drought by pumping from a deep borehole which is situated in Olwen Farm's field, approximately 1,500 yards from the Reservoir. The water supply is being chlorinated daily. Note. Olwen Well is subject to silting.

Number of samples taken during the year of the Town Water Supply	
for Bacteriological Examination were	33.
Harford Square Fountain	1.

Result of samples.

Highly satisfactory	28.
Insufficiently chlorinated	2.
Unsatisfactory	3.
Harford Square Fountain	1.
which indicated a slight surface contamination.	



There are four family butchers in the Borough and each is kept satisfactorily clean and provided with Refrigerator which is most essential for every shop that is selling goods of perishable nature.

This concludes my report for the year ended 31st December, 1952.

I am, Gentlemen, Yours obediently, D. J. Davies, Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.

