# Contributors

Lampeter (Wales). Borough Council.

# **Publication/Creation**

1954

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#### BOROUGH OF LAMPETER

# PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

1954



#### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

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.

### PREFACE

It gives me pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of the Health Department for the year which ended on December 31st, 1954.

An examination of the ensuing pages will show that the health of the inhabitants of the Borough continues to give cause for satisfaction. Although afflicted with minor illnesses, in common with other parts of the country, the Borough has not been subjected to any outbreak of serious infectious disease. On the contrary, it has been remarkably free from even the minor infections, for only two cases of whooping cough were notified during the entire twelve months.

The number of registered births was twenty four - five more than in 1953. As in 1953, there was no stillbirth and no illegitimate birth. No child died under the age of a twelvemonth nor did any mother die as a result of childbirth.

The number of registered deaths exceeded by ten the number of registered births. This is, in large measure, due to the proportion of elderly people living in the Borough. The principal causes of death were diseases of the heart and vascular lesions of the nervous system (strokes), each of which accounted for twelve deaths.

Four new cases of tuberculosis were discovered during the year, all of which were of the pulmonary type.

Towards the end of the year, evidence was given at the public

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enquiry into Lampeter Borough and Newcastle Emlyn Rural District Council Joint Sewerage Scheme. The defects of the existing system at Lampeter were brought to the attention of the Inspector conducting the enquiry.

A more detailed commentary on various aspects of the department's work 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

Area (in acres)	•••	1,754
Population (Census 1951)	•••	1,799
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1953)	•••	1,945
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1954)	•••	1,950
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1954	•••	£10,457
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1955	•••	£11,148
Sum represented by a penny rate 1953/54		£41

Number of registered live births	Leg: Illeg:	<u>Total</u> 24 -	Male 12	Female 12
Number of registered still births	Leg: Illeg:	1 -	1	-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year.	Leg: Illeg:	=		-
Number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks -	Leg: Illeg:	=		=
Number of deaths of women ascribed to child	birth	Nil		
Number of registered deaths	•••	34	14	20
Areal comparability factor for births	•••	1.04		
Areal comparability factor for deaths		0.71		

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Area (in sores) ... \*..

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#### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

These are essentially the same as in 1953. The main features are as follows:-

- (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 Certified Midwives.
- (d) A health visitor covers the Lampeter area.
- (e) 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.

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# CAUSES OF DEATH IN CERTAIN DISEASES

Registrar	General's
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Code Number		Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	÷.		2
3	Syphilitic disease	-	2	-
1	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough	-	-	-
23456789	Meningococoal	-	_	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	_	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1	1
11	Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus.	4	-	-
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	4	4	-
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	1	2
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	-	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	4	8	12
18	Coronary disease, angina	2	8	3
19	Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-
20	Other heart disease	2	7	9
21	Other circulatory disease	1	<u> </u>	9 1
22	Influenza	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	-	4	-
24	Bronchitis	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	-
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-		-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	4	-
31	Congenital malformations	4	-	-
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	-	1	1
33	Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	. 🛥
34	All other accidents	-	-	-
35	Suicide	1	-	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	and was were not the last loss loss			
	Potol	77	20	21

Total

14

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20 34

#### CANSES OF DEATH IN CERTAIN DISEASES

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# INFECTIOUS DISEASE

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

Cholera		•••	• • •		•••		•••	Nil
Diphtheria	•••		•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	Nil
Dysentery (amoebic a	and ba	cillar	y)	•••	•••			Nil
Encephalitis	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	Nil
Erysipelas	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	Nil
Food poisoning	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		Nil
Malaria	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	Nil
Measles	•••		•••	•••	•••		•••	Nil
Meningococcal menir	ngitis	•••	•••	•••		•••	•••	Nil
Ophthalmia neonatoru	m.		•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	Nil
Paratyphoid fever		•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		Nil
Plague	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		Nil
Pneumonia (acute pri	Lmary	and ac	ute in	fluenz	al)	•••	•••	Nil
Poliomyelitis	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		•••	Nil
Puerperal pyrexia	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		Nil
Relapsing fever .	•••		•••	•••	•••			Nil
Scarlet fever	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		•••	Nil
Smallpox	•••		•••		•••	•••		Nil
Typhoid fever	•••			•••				Nil
Typhus fever	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••		Nil
Whooping cough	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	2

#### DEPECTIOUS DISEASE

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The following is a list of the notifications of infoctions disease,

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				3 = 1	254	***		** d2	

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# TUBERCULOSIS

Four new cases were notified during the year. The details are as follows:-

AGE GROUP	RESPIR	ATORY	NON-F	ESPIRATORY
Recondigentrucks	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 4		<u> </u>		
5 - 9		-	_	<u></u>
10 - 14		<u></u>	-	
15 - 19	1			
20 - 24		2	- <u>107 - 100</u>	
25 - 29	-	-	-	-
30 - 34	_	-	-	
35 - 39				
40 - 44			-	
45 - 49	1		-	for ther
50 - 54	_	-		
55 - 59		-	-	
60 and over		-	-	Cartana -
Totals	2	2		n an - han

#### TUREROULOSIS

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Four now cases were notified during the year. The details are

		rector			
				AL - 01	
		1			
				25 - 29	
				35 - 39	
				14 - 01	
				50 - 54	

#### MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The mass radiography unit visited Lampeter in the autumn of 1954 when 741 persons were examined. Only one was found to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. There were 29 other abnormalities detected, the details of which are given in the ensuing table:-

		Total	Male	Female
Bony abnormality B ronchitis and Emphysema Bronchiectasis Pneumoconiosis, Stage 1: Basal Fibrosis Healed Primary P.T. Healed Post Primary P.T. Retro Sternal Thyroid	···· ··· ···· ···	77112551	2611224	5 1 - - 3 1 1
	TOTALS	29	18	11

# SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1947.

It again became necessary to obtain an order, under the urgency section of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, in respect of the lady referred to in last year's Annual Report. The order was granted for the maximum period of three weeks by a Justice of the Peace acting on the certificates of two registered medical practitioners. The order was renewed by the magistrates' court for a further period of three months. By the end of this period, the lady realised that she was no longer able to care for herself and relinquished the tenancy of her Council house. A further renewal of the order became unnecessary.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

A number of houses were inspected during the year and "official representations" or reports were submitted to the Council.

International vaccination certificates against smallpox and cholera of persons residing in Lampeter and proceeding to certain overseas destinations were authenticated in the manner prescribed by the World Health Regulations No. 2.

> I. MORGAN WATKIN MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Cardiganshire Joint District Councils Swyddfa'r Sir, ABERYSTWYTH. July, 1955.

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	5-5-4-4-61 10-10-14	Bony abnormality B ronohitia and Emphymens Bronchiectants Pheumoconiosis Stage 1: Hasal Fibrosis Healed Frimmy P.T Rotro Sternal Thyroid

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I. MORGAN MAINTIN

Gerdiganshiro Johnt District Councils Swyddfa'r Sir, ABERCETWYTH. July, 1955.

#### 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, 1954.

# Sanitary circumstances of the area

### Closet accommodation in the town

#### Note

This pail system is not situated within a reasonable distance of the public sever.

Number of various closets and cesspools which are situated on the perimeter of the town where the public sewers are not available.

Number	of W.C's. (fresh water flushed)	12
Number	of cesspools and septic tanks	11
Number	of pail systems	7
Number	of Elsan closets	5

<u>Note:</u> All the premises in this area are supplied with fresh water from the town water main with the exception of four, while two of these premises are situated on the high level where there is insufficient pressure for the main to be effective.

# Number of various kinds of closets and cesspools situated in the country district.

Number of water closets (with fresh water cisterns flushed)	
Number of cesspools	13
Number of Elsan closets	2
Number of pail systems	19

All houses in this area are chiefly dependent for their water supply on deep wells and pumps, with the exception of the following:-

> Falcondale Mansion; Four Farms; One Smallholding; Seven private dwelling houses;

### BOROUGH OF LAMPETER

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Note: All the promises in this area are supplied with fresh water from the town water and water and town water and the exception of four, while two of these promises are alterated on the high level where there is insufficient pressure for the main to be effective.

# Aundor of various idade of clorete and conspoole situated in the

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		 	NACOUPENIE INTERES	
	****************	 	pail systems.	

All houses in this cross are chiefly dependent for their water supply on deep walls and pumps, with the crospiion of the followings-

Falcondale Manufany Four Frinkj One Smallholding; Seven private dwelling houses; which are being supplied with a piped private supply.

One Children's Home is supplied direct from the town water main.

## Scavenging

١

The domestic and trade refuse of the town and the area situated on the perimeter are collected twice weekly. All obnoxious and waste matters are destroyed in the incinerator. Empty tins and all kinds of glasses are collected bi-weekly.

## Scavenging in Country District

Domestic refuse and empty tins in this area are collected bi-weekly.

Street cleansing	of	town main road	twice weekly.
		main centre of town roads	
		tł	roughout the year.
Street cleansing	of	town unclassified roads	once weekly.

# Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Number of inspections of dwelling houses	48
Number of inspections of dairies	periodically
Number of inspections of milk vans	periodically
Number of inspections of workshops	periodically
Number of inspections of cafes and bakehouses	periodically
Number of inspections of meat shops	periodically
Number of inspections of schools	periodically
Number of inspections of reservoir	daily
Number of inspections of Olwen Well	periodically
Number of inspections of refuse tips	. weekly
Number of inspections of both water sources	6
Number of inspections of mart premises	periodically
Number of inspections of sewer open ditches	. periodically
Number of inspections of public conveniences	daily
Number of inspections of public parks	. daily
Number of inspections of fish and chip shops	. 52
Number of blocked private drains released	16
Number of drains tested and approved - 4" new drains	2351
Number of disinfections of dwelling houses and contact	
clothing as a result of pulmonary tuberculosis	•• 4

# Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

One part-time rodent operator under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Number of business premises treated	3
Number of private dwelling houses	1
Welfare Home	1
Number of public sewers	- 2
Estimated number of rats killed	860

# which are boing supplied with a piped private supply.

a children's Home is supplied direct from the toun water moin.

#### Saavenetne

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Street cleansing of town unclassified roads......

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	Number of inspections of public conveniences
	Number of inspections of public porks
	Mumber of inspections of fish and chip shops
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and an adam betanted	

The annual cost of rodent control in Lampeter Borough, after allowing for the Ministry grant, is approximately equivalent to a half-penny rate. It is amply repaid by the benefit to the community.

I wish to state that the rat population is definitely on the decrease. This is due, in part, to the increased awareness of the general public to the problem, and also to the steps taken by the Local Authority in dealing with rat destruction.

#### Milk Supply

1 Milk bar was registered as a retailer of raw milk during the year.

2

2

Periodical inspections of the dairies were made.

#### Ice Cream

The bacteriological quality of the ice cream continues to improve. There is also a minimum food standard as follows:-

The ice cream shall contain not less than 5 per cent fat, 10 per cent sugar and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent milk solids, other than fat.

Number of registered premises	10
Number who manufacture	1
Number of samples taken for bacteriological examination	22

The certificate of the Public Health Laboratory showed that 18 samples were in grade 1, 4 samples were in grade 2.

As per instructions received from Dr. I. Morgan Watkin, the Borough Medical Officer of Health, every tin containing <u>Galtee Irish Cream</u> which was suspiciously infected with typhoid germ, was collected from shops in the town - total - 22 tins, as part of a consignment. Two of these tins were submitted for bacteriological examination and the certificate of the Public Health Laboratory showed that both tins were culture sterile. Immediately on the receipt of the report, all the tins in question were ordered by the Medical Officer of Health to be returned to the respective shops.

Number of registered fish and chip shops	2
Number of inspections made	52
Number of registered premises selling sausage and potted meat	4
Number of inspections	periodically

All are being kept satisfactorily.

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All are baing loopt satisfactorily.

Number of mobile vans retailing ice cream and refreshments	1
Number of registered bakehouses	4
Number of food shops	18
Number of greengrocers	1
Number of meat shops	4
Number of cafes	7
Number of inspectionsperiod	ically

As far as I am aware, no cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

#### Licensed Victuallers

Number of hotels	3
Number of inns	6
Refreshment rooms at British Railway Station	1
Number of temperance hotels	1
Number of brewery bottling depots	1

All hotels and inns except two are provided with hot water in the public bar. The licencees of these two particular inns have promised to install hot water in the near future.

One informal notice was issued to improve the condition of the sanitary conveniences and to resurface the back yard with tarmacadam at a certain inn and it was complied with.

On the whole, all the licensed premises, food shops and cafes are being kept satisfactorily clean and orderly.

Inspection of Meat and other foods

# Lampeter Abattoir

Number of animals killed during the year -

Cattle	Pigs 1469	Calves 610	Sheep	Total	
721	1,469	610	<u>Sheep</u> 6 <b>,</b> 060	Total 8,860	

Weight of meat condemned for reasons other than tuberculosis 1 cow carcase and the offals of a T.B. reactor 1 cow fore quarter and the offals of a T.B. reactor 5 cows and offal of a T.B. reactor 1 heifer and offals of a T.B. reactor	308 lbs. 142 lbs. 235 lbs.	
Total	And and a service of	

and an and the second s mustor of brewery bottling depotessessessessessessessesses test and I cow servene and the offals of a T.S. reactor ..... S cows and offel of a T.B. reactor ........ I holfer and offals of a T.B. reactor .....

Food inspection excluding abattoir

# Condemnation -

<pre>13 tins of Corn Beef.</pre>	681bs.
1 tin Ox Lunch Tongue.	6 1bs.
Cooked Ham.	65 1bs. 8 ozs.
Sausage.	10 1bs.
1 side of Wiltshire bacon.	60 1bs.
2 tins preserved peaches.	3 1bs. 12 ozs.
8 tins preserved pears.	9 1bs. 4 ozs.
10 tins Anchor milk.	10 1bs.
4 tins Irish cream.	1 1b. 8 ozs.
6 tins preserved apricots.	6 1bs.
2 tins preserved pears.	3 1bs. 10 ozs.
11 tins of soup.	7 1bs. 8 ozs.
	077 71 0

This condemned food is being destroyed in the incinerator.

Since the end of war-time restrictions on the slaughter of animals for human consumption, a steady improvement in the quality and quantity of butchers' meat has been noticed.

251 1bs. 2 ozs.

There has been a general improvement in the handling of meat at the local abattoir and also in the mode of transport to its destination.

All condemned meat is being sprayed thoroughly with green naphthalene fluid in order to avoid any possibility of the meat being used for human consumption. There is a ready demand for same by the proprietor of the Knackers Yard. It is worthy of mention that, since the end of the Central Slaughtering Scheme, the amount of meat condemned is astonishingly less.

#### Water

There is a satisfactory supply of piped water in the town and in the perimeter area with the exception of those four dwelling houses which I have already mentioned.

The supply is augmented during abnormal drought by pumping from a deep bore hole situated at Olwen Farm Field approximately 1500 yards from the town reservoir at the rate of 2,000 gallons per hour. The bore hole is subject to silting and, if pumping is allowed to exceed 2,000 gallons per hour, fine slimy sand rises with the water. The water is being chlorinated daily at the reservoir.

The reservoir settling tanks and collecting chambers at both sources are cleaned and washed out once a year. All schools and St. David's College are provided with water closets and are adequately supplied with piped water for flushing purposes.

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are cleaned and washed out once a year. All schools and St. David's sources (college are provided with water closets and bro adequately supplied with

Estimated number of inspections from house to house for water leakages... 750

Multiple number of leakages were located during the year and duly repaired. Most were caused by severe frost during the winter months while a good many were caused by culpable negligence on the part of some of the householders.

Number of samples taken during the year of the town.

Water supply for bacteriological examination	10
Highly satisfactory	8
Satisfactory	2

No chlorine was detected in either sample.

Three samples of flowing water, one each from an asbestos pipe, a lead pipe and a copper pipe, were taken for chemical examination and the certificate of the Public Analyst showed that no lead or copper was present in either of the said drawn samples.

Two samples of water standing over night were taken for chemical examination. One was from a copper pipe and the other one from lead piping.

The Certificate of the Public Analyst indicated that the water tends to dissolve the metals when not flowing. As a precautionary measure, Dr. I. Morgan Watkin, the Medical Officer of Health, recommended the discontinuance of lead piping for water fittings.

The Borough Council accepted his recommendation and has since passed a Bye-Law to that effect.

#### Notices served under the Public Health Act

## Housing Statistics

Number of houses owned by the Local Authority	84
Number of flats	4
Number of homes for the aged	2
Number of houses built by the Local Authority	Nil
Number of houses built by other bodies or persons - new bungalows.	2

Southanted munior of inspections from house to house for writer laniment. The

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#### Houndar Statletics

 - 15 -

## The Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925

Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit	
for human habitation	1
Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence	
of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	1
Number of houses closed	1
Number of flats closed	1
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted	
under Sub section(2) of section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930	1
Number of flats ditto	1
Number of flats unfit for human habitation	1
Number of houses demolished	Ni

#### Unhealthy areas

There are no unhealthy areas within the Lampeter Borough.

By	re-	la	SW	to

	(a)	New Building	Yes
	$\binom{a}{b}$		Yes
	(c)	Houses let in lodgings	No
	(d)	Tents and vans	No
1	(e)	Keeping of swine and other animals	No

Rivers and streams - No action was found necessary.

#### Drainage and Sewerage

There are three sewage outfalls. One discharges direct into the Dulas River and thence to the River Teify, while the other two discharge into open trenches running for approximately 300 yards before discharging into the River Creuddyn.

In addition there is a group of seven dwelling houses provided with a combined drain with an outfall into the Mill Race and thence to the River Dulas

As already stated in my previous annual reports, Lampeter Borough Council and Llanybyther-Newcastle Emlyn R.D.C. were contemplating to proceed with a new joint sewage disposal scheme. Since then a Local Inquiry has been held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government when evidence was heard and considered from every angle. Tenders will be invited, in the near future, to carry out the project.

#### The Housing Consolidation Reguletions 1925

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	Water fittings	
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I am pleased to report that the new Mart Premises have been completed. They are unquestionably among the best-planned and constructed premises in Wales.

This concludes my report for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

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

Borough Surveyor, Sanitary Inspector

and Food Inspector.

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