

[Report 1925] / Medical Officer of Health, Llandrindod Wells U.D.C.

Contributors

Llandrindod Wells (Wales). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1925

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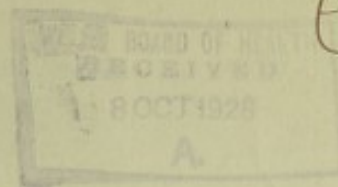
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*Handwritten Wells Urban District Council
Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1925*

Nil





Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	(Acres)	1509
Population	(1925)	2851
Number of Inhabited Houses		580
Rateable Value		£30413=15=0
Sum represented by a penny rate		£120



Social Conditions:-

Llandrindod Wells is the chief Spa in Wales, with numerous medicinal springs and various treatments and baths. It is situated about 700 feet above sea-level on a gentle slope towards the South and West, above the river Ithon.

The town is entirely residential, a large influx of visitors being added during the Season from May to October. The occupations of the inhabitants is the ordinary work incidental to a small town. There are no factories or works in or near the town.

Vital Statistics:-

	Total	Male	Female
Births. Legitimate	42	25	17
Illegitimate	3	1	2

Birth Rate 15.7 per 1000

Deaths	Total	Male	Female
	31	19	12

Death Rate 10.8 per 1000

Number of Women dying of or in consequence of childbirth Nil

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1000 births

Legitimate 44.4 Illegitimate Nil.



Area (Approx.) 1000
Population (1900) 100,000
Number of inhabited houses 200
Average lot size 100-150
Area represented by a penny coin 1000

Medical Conditions:-

Intestinalis is the chief disease, with numerous secondary
diseases and various symptoms and lesions. It is situated about 100 ft
above sea-level on a gentle slope. The health and food, above the
river level.
The town is entirely dependent on a large influx of visitors during the
summer and season from May to October. The population of the
intestines is the ordinary level (normal) in a small town.
There are no factories or shops in the town.

Medical Statistics:-

Year	Male	Female	Total
1900	100	100	200
1901	100	100	200
1902	100	100	200
1903	100	100	200
1904	100	100	200
1905	100	100	200
1906	100	100	200
1907	100	100	200
1908	100	100	200
1909	100	100	200
1910	100	100	200

There are no factories or shops in the town.

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Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1925.

Disease	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox			
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-
Diphtheria			
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)			
Puerperal Fever			
Pneumonia			
Other diseases generally notifiable.			
Other diseases notifiable locally.			

Deaths from	Measles (all ages))))	Nil
	Whooping Cough (all ages)		
	Diarrhoea etc. (under 2 years of age)		

There has not been any outbreak of sickness or invalidity of any extent or note during the year.

Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital during the Years 1921-1925

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Scarlet Fever	1		1	3	1
Diphtheria				1	
Enteric & Paratyphoid				1	
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.		1			

Available Diseases during the Year 1921

Disease	Total Cases Reported	Cases admitted to hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-
Diphtheria			
Scarlet Fever (including Paratyphoid)			
Paratyphoid Fever			
Typhoid			
Other diseases generally reportable			
Other diseases not reportable			

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Scarlet Fever (all ages)
Diphtheria (all ages)
Typhoid fever (all ages)
Paratyphoid fever (all ages)
Typhoid (all ages)
Paratyphoid (all ages)
Other diseases generally reportable
Other diseases not reportable

There has been no outbreak of scarlet fever or diphtheria of any extent
or more during the year.

Cases admitted to hospital during the Year 1921-1922

1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Scarlet Fever	1	1			
Diphtheria		1			
Scarlet & Paratyphoid		1			
Paratyphoid Fever					
Typhoid					
Paratyphoid					

[illegible]

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Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1925

New Cases				Deaths.				
Age Periods.	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male.	Female	Male	Female.
0								
1								
5								
10								
15				1				1
20		1	1					
25		1						
35		1	1					
45	2				1			
55								
65 & upwards.								
Totals	2	3	2	1	1			1

Five of the above cases notified were not residents but visitors to the district.

Notification is usually prompt and efficient.

General Provision of Health Service in the Area.

Hospitals.

Maternity:- A Maternity Ward has been added to the General Hospital for the reception of abnormal cases or for those whose home conditions are not suitable.

Fever and Smallpox Hospitals:- The needs in this respect are furnished by the Isolation Hospital with 15 beds situated about a mile from the town. The only case of infectious disease notified during the year was one of Scarlet Fever in a boy aged 15 years.

There is a General Surgical and Medical Hospital of 40 beds in the town.

Ambulance facilities:- A motor ambulance is available for non-infectious cases and accident cases. There is also a horse ambulance to be obtained.

Clinic & Treatment Centres.

Maternity & Child Welfare Centre:- There is one centre in connection with this scheme in the town, where consultations are held every fortnight. The attendance is regular.

Tuberculosis:- There is a Visiting Station in the town where the physician appointed by the Welsh National Memorial Scheme examines ambulatory cases every fortnight. At the request of local practitioners the Tuberculosis Medical Officer will visit patients at their own homes.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health (part time) John J. McCormick M.B. D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector (part time) T. W. Baker. Cert. R. San. Inst.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals.

Maternity:- A Maternity Ward has been added to the General Hospital for the reception of abnormal cases or for those where home conditions are not suitable.

Poor and Smaller Hospitals:- The needs in this respect are furnished by the Infirmary Hospital with its beds attended about a mile from the town. The only case of infectious disease noted during the year was one of Scarlet Fever in a boy aged 15 years.

There is a General Hospital and National Hospital of 40 beds in the town.

Isolation Facilities:- A minor maintenance is available for non-infectious cases and accident cases. There is also a horse ambulance to be obtained.

Dental & Treatment Centres.

Maternity & Child Welfare Centres:- There is one centre in connection with this scheme in the town, where consultations are held every fortnight. The attendance is regular.

Tuberculosis:- There is a visiting station in the town where the physician appointed by the Welsh National Tuberculosis Association visits every fortnight. At the request of local practitioners the Tuberculosis Medical Officer will visit patients at their own homes.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authorities.

Medical Officer of Health (part time) John J. Macdonald M.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector (part time) J. W. Mather, Cert. H. San. Ins.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

- (a) General:- There are two District Nurses provided by the County Council.
- (b) Midwives:- The two District Nurses mentioned above are also the midwives for the district. A subsidy is received by the Nursing Association from the Ministry of Health.

Chemical Work.

Materials for bacteriological examination are sent to the Clinical Research Association. These consist mainly of throat swabs of convalescent patients in the Isolation Hospital previous to discharge. Samples of the drinking water are taken twice yearly and sent to the Public Analyst.

Copy of Analysis of Water.

Report on the analysis of a Sample of Water received on 4/6/25
Sample taken from tap leading from main.

Colour	Clear. Bright.
Odour	Nil.

Chemical Examination.

Sample contains the parts as under.	parts per 100,000
Saline Ammonia	0.001
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.007
Chlorine	1.30
Calculated as common salt	2.15
Total Hardness as Ca CO ₃	6.00
Nitrates	0.02
Nitrites	Nil
Oxygen consumed at 27 °C in fifteen minutes	0.055
" in 4 hours	0.114
Total Solids	8.40

Bacteriological Examination:-

No organisms of the Coli group were found in 50, 25, 20, 10, 5, 2 or 1 ccs. of the sample examined.

Professional Meeting in the House

The following is a summary of the proceedings of the meeting held on the 10th of the month.

The meeting was held in the House of Representatives.

(a) The first item of business was the presentation of the report of the Committee on the subject of the proposed amendments to the Bill.

The Committee reported that they had considered the amendments and had found them to be of a technical nature.

(b) The second item of business was the consideration of the amendments to the Bill.

The amendments were presented by the Minister of the Crown and were discussed at length by the members of the House.

The amendments were found to be of a technical nature and were accordingly agreed to.

The meeting then adjourned until the next day.

Technical Work

The following is a summary of the technical work done during the meeting.

The technical work was done by the members of the House and the members of the public who were present.

The technical work was done in the House of Representatives and in the House of Lords.

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Legislation in Force.

The following Acts, Bye Laws and Regulations are in force:-

Public Health Amendment Act.	1890
Infectious Disease Prevention Act	1890
Llandrindod Wells Water Act	1901
Llandrindod Wells Urban District Council Act	1905
" " " " " "	1920

Bye-laws as to Nuisances, Cleansing of Footways etc. Slaughterhouses, New Streets and Buildings all adopted 14th May. 1892.

Regulations with respect to Dairies etc. 11th May 1900

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The principal source of water supply is from the river. The water is first mechanically filtered, after which it is pumped up to the sand filters situated on a hill above the town. Some of the outlying parts of the town are supplied by wells, the water of which has been found to be of good composition.

Water is laid on directly to the houses, no stand pipes are in use, and the supply is constant, although each house usually has a cistern. No plumbo-solvent action has been observed.

Rivers and Streams:- A small brook runs through the town to discharge into the river Ithon which skirts the town. Both are free from pollution.

Drainage and Sewerage:- The Sewerage System is of the Septic Tank and Downward Filtration method. There is an installation outside each end of the town. The effluents are discharged into the river after running over some waste land.

Closet Accommodation:- Water carriage system is the rule throughout the Urban Area.

Scavenging:- House refuse is removed periodically from the ashbins and burnt in the destructor. There are very few ashpits in use, the latter being discouraged.

Particulars of Unsound Food Surrendered.

Corned Beef	8½ lbs.
Tinned Fruit	28 lbs.
Jam	1 lb
Tinned Salmon	1 lb.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Summary of the Work of the Sanitary Department during the Year.

Complaints investigated	21	Lodging Houses.	
Letters written	12	No. Registered	Nil
Nuisances:-		No of inspections	
No. of visits re nuisances	54	Offensive Trades	
re works in progress	13	No registered	Nil
		No of inspections	
Notices issued:-		Water Supply.	
(a) Informal	5	Wells sunk	
(b) Statutory	1	No. of samples taken for	
Notices complied with	6	chemical analysis	1
Notices outstanding	Nil	No found polluted	Nil
Legal Proceedings taken	Nil	No of wells repaired	Nil
		No of wells closed	Nil
Housing.		No. of houses connected to	
Food preparing Places.		main supply	10
No of inspections	24		
Slaughter houses		Infectious Diseases.	
No registered or licensed	3	No. of enquiries	2
No of inspections	62	No. of cases removed to	
		Isolation Hospital	1
No. of Voluntary surrender of		No of room disinfected	11
carcase of part of a carcase		Bedding & clothing disinfected	
on account of		No. of houses disinfected	
(a) Tuberculosis			
(b) Other diseases		House Drainage.	
No of Voluntary surrender of		No laid or relaid	1
other unsound food	5	No cleansed, trapped or ventilated	5
No of seizures of unsound		Spouting, wastepipes sinks etc	
food	Nil	rectified	
		No of cesspools cleansed	
Cowsheds.		" " " repaired	
No of persons registered	8		
No of inspections	31	Privies. Ashpits.	
		No of new	
Milkshops.		No repaired	
No of persons registered	Nil	No converted to w.c.	
No of inspections		No of pail closets	
		No of earth closets	
Workshops.		Other.	
No Registered	27		
No of inspections	55	No. of loads of trade & house	
		refuse removed by motor lorry	1279
Bakehouses		by carts	371
No Registered	6	Total Loads	1650
No of inspections	25		
		Total no. of inspections and	
Scavenging.		Visits made	319.
No of privies emptied			
No of ashpits emptied			
No of cesspools emptied			
No of accumulations of refuse			
removed	4		

Smoke Abatement:- The need for this does not arise.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws and Regulations
There are no Common Lodging Houses or Offensive Trades carried on in the town.

Schools:- There are 3 schools, 2 elementary and one secondary. All are modern in their requirements.

Housing.

1. (1) General Housing Conditions in the Area.

The housing conditions in the town are generally good, there are no back to back houses, and owing to the hilly nature of the ground there is usually sufficient air and light.

(2) There is some shortage of houses for the working classes, many of whom are in flats, but under good conditions.

2. Overcrowding. There is no evidence that this exists.

3. Fitness of Houses.

(1) The standard of houses is good, and the interiors kept clean by the occupiers.

(2) The few actions taken as regards unfit houses are given in the table of Housing Statistics for the Year.

Housing Statistics for the Year 1925

Number of new houses erected during the Year

(a) Total	10
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts 1919 or 1923	Nil

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection. (1) Total number of houses inspected for Housing Defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 110

(2) No. of houses which were inspected & recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regs. 1910 30

(3) No. of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil

(4) No. of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 4

2. Remedy of Defects without service of formal notices.

No of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 4

3. Action under Statutory Powers. Nil

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply:- The quality of the milk supplied to the town is fairly good. The sampling is undertaken by the County Council. The number of licences granted under the Milk (Special Designation) Order 1923 were 24. There has been no refusal or revocation of licences.

Meat:- Inspection of Meat under the Public Health Meat Regulations 1924 is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

The number of inspections were as follows:-

Beasts	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
44	5	110	33	192

All carcasses were found to be sound.

There are no Public Slaughter houses.

Slaughterhouses	1920	Jan. 1925	Dec. 1925
Registered	3	3	3
Licensed.			

Particulars of unsound food surrendered are given in a previous table.

(1) General Housing Conditions in the Area.
The housing conditions in the town are generally good, there are no back to back houses, and owing to the hilly nature of the ground, the houses are well ventilated and light.
(2) There is some shortage of houses for the working classes, many of whom are in flats, but under good conditions.

Overcrowding. There is no evidence that this exists.

History of Housing.
(1) The number of houses in 1901, and the increase since then by 1931.
(2) The two houses taken as typical with houses are given in the table of Housing Statistics for the Year.

Housing Statistics for the Year 1931

Number of new houses erected during the Year.
(a) Total.
(b) With private and public housing.

1. Public Housing.
(1) Total number of houses included for housing.
(2) Number of houses which were included in the housing survey.
(3) Number of houses which were included in the housing survey.
(4) Number of houses which were included in the housing survey.
(5) Number of houses which were included in the housing survey.

2. Private Housing.
(1) Number of houses which were included in the housing survey.
(2) Number of houses which were included in the housing survey.

3. Housing under Government Powers.
(1) Number of houses which were included in the housing survey.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

1. Inspection of Food.
(1) The quality of the food supplied to the town is fairly good.
(2) The number of houses visited under the Milk (Special Regulations) Ord.
(3) There has been no reduction in the number of houses visited.

2. Inspection of Food.
(1) The number of houses visited under the Milk (Special Regulations) Ord.
(2) There has been no reduction in the number of houses visited.

All concerns were found to be sound.

There are no public slaughter houses.

Year	1930	1931	1932
Inspected	100	100	100
Not Inspected	0	0	0
Total	100	100	100

Particulars of houses food supervised are given in a previous table.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases of infectious disease since 1920 are given in the table below:-

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	1	1	2	7	1
Diphtheria	0	4	0	2	0
Enteric & Paratyphoid	0	1	1	1	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis					
Lethargica.	0	1	2	0	0

The year 1924 was remarkable for the number of cases of Scarlet Fever i.e. 7. Three of these were imported by visitors from elsewhere. The other four were sporadic cases and no spread of infection took place.

Four cases of Diphtheria of a mild nature occurred in 1923 and were treated by an anti-toxin at once and made uninterrupted recoveries.

The two cases of Encephalitis Lethargica in 1923 proved fatal.

Material for Bacteriological examination is sent to the Clinical Research Association. In some cases the County Council undertakes arrangements for the examination of material free of charge.

The Dick or Schick Tests were not performed. No vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health Smallpox Prevention Regulations 1917.

Amongst the non-notifiable infectious diseases Mumps was prevalent during 1925 and caused some absence from school for a period.

Influenza did not assume a serious form as the victims usually seek advice when first attacked. One death from Influenza occurred during the year at the age of 80.

Disinfection is carried out at the patients house. There is no disinfecting station.

Notifiable diseases during the year 1925 are given in a previous table.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulation 1925.
No action was taken under above act.

Public Health Act 1925 Sec. 62
It was not necessary to take action under the above Section.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

The number of cases of infectious diseases since 1920 are given in the table below.

	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet fever	1	1	1	1	1
Epidemic typhus	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic typhus	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic typhus	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic typhus	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic typhus	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic typhus	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic typhus	0	0	0	0	0
Epidemic typhus	0	0	0	0	0

The year 1924 was remarkable for the number of cases of scarlet fever. These of course were imported by visitors from elsewhere. The other infectious diseases were not spread of infectious diseases.

Four cases of epidemic typhus were reported in 1924 and were due to an anti-toxin as was the epidemic typhus.

The two cases of epidemic typhus in 1923 were fatal.

Material for bacteriological examination is sent to the District Health Association. In some cases the County Council bacteriological examination for the examination of material type of change.

The blood or sputum from the patient was not examined. No vaccination was performed by the District Officer of Health under the Public Health Act 1924 (Section 26).

Because the non-responsible infectious diseases were not prevalent during 1924 and 1925 were epidemic from abroad for a period.

Infection did not assume a serious form as the epidemic usually early since when first observed, the death rate infection occurred during the first few days of the year.

Examination is carried out at the patients house. There is no disinfecting station.

Notifiable diseases during the year 1924 are given in a previous table.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulation 1924.
No action was taken under above act.

Public Health Act 1924 Sec. 26.
It was not necessary to take action under the above section.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH For the Year 1925

for the URBAN DISTRICT of LLANDRINDOD WELLS on the administration
of the Factory and Workshop Act 1901 in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors and
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	6		
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	44	3	Nil
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers premises)	30		
	80	3	

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Offences in respect to which prosecution were instit- uted.
Nuisances under Public Health Acts:-				
Want of Cleanliness	3	3		
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances.				
Sanitary Accommodation.				
Insufficient				
Unsuitable or defective				
not separate for sexes				
Other offences under the Factory & Workshop Acts.				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses.				
Other Offences.				
	3	3		

(Signature) J. J. McGormick.
Medical Officer of Health.
Date Sept. 1st. 1926

