[Report 1937] / Medical Officer of Health, Llandrindod Wells U.D.C.

Contributors

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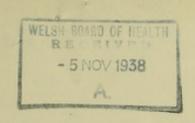
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Whitehall





LIANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members.

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my annual report upon the Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics of your Urban Area for the year 1937.

This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in Circular 1650 (Wales), issued by the Ministry of Health, and presents briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department towards promoting the sanitation of our Town and the well being of the populace.

Yours faithfully,

Medical Officer of Health.

Ala/an Itai

(8)

LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1937.

Signed Cala Tai

Medical Officer of Health.

Date . 37/167.38.....

LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1937.

SECTION A.

Statistics and social Conditions of the Area.

Area of District in Acres
Registrar General's estimate of the Resident Population mid 19372615 persons
No. of inhabited houses at the end of the year765
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1937£23,850
Estimated product of penny rate£92

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District is a Township situated in the centre of a purely agricultural district, being 40 to 60 miles away from any large cities or manufacturing districts, and is situated on a plateau on the mountain ranges of Mid-Vales at a height of 720 feet above sea level and looks west to north-west, in which direction it is sheltered by the Plynlimon Mountains and the Mountains to the South.

Its sheltered position on a hillside with clay soils, makes its dimate healthy, bracing and congenial.

OCCUPATIONS. -- The Spa is a health and holiday resort with a small residential population, the only occupation of the inhabitants being the keeping of boarding houses and the necessary social services.

The natural medicinal waters with the Spa Establishments are available throughout the year, but the chief season extends from May to October. During this period of 1937, the Town received a fair number of visitors who came either for treatments, to take the waters, or for a quiet and restful holiday, for which the Town is noted.

The amount of unemployment is variable and throughput the year there was a great deal of work on roads and Post Office Engineering constructions.

As stated in previous reports, many seasonal workers, the majority being women and girls, are engaged from outside the district, chiefly from the mining areas of South Wales.

Although there is no noticeable distress in the district due to unemployment of the labouring classes, it is noticeable that those residents controlling small boarding houses and those shop-keepers who do a large credit trade are finding it more difficult each year financially and it is regrettable that no industries can be started in or near the Town, whereby the income of the Town can be increased.

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the year, onere was a great deal of work on roads and Fest Office

majority bring women and arris are enumged from outside the

due to un apisyment of the istouring alegaes, in the distribution of the interest of the inter

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of the District, during 1937.

Births	Total.	М.	F.
Live Births Legitimate	38	22	16
Live Births Illegitimate	Nil.	-	-
Still Births	1	-	1

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:-

Live Births 10.7. Birth Rate for 1936, 15.09 Still Births 0.38 Still Births for 1936, 0.35.

Deaths. Total. M. F. No of Deaths 48 18 30

The death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population is 18.3, which is 3.2 less than 1936 and 1.0 greater than 1935.

Death from Puerperal Causes Nil. Death Rate from Puerperal Causes Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under One year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	53
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	53
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	Nil.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil.

There was no unusual excessive mortality during the year.

There was no sickness or invalidity of note during the year, nor was there any evidence that unemployment had any adverse influence on the health of those who were out of work.

TABLE 2.

Causes of Death.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
All Causes	18	30
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	-	-
2. Measles	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	_
4. Whooping Cough 5. Diptheria 6. Influenza	-	-
5. Diptheria	-	-
6. Influenza	-	1
7. Encephalis Lethargia	-	-
8. Cerebo Spinal Fever	-	-
9. Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	-
10. Other Tuberculosis Diseases	1	-
11. Syphilis	-	-
12. General Paralysis of Insane, Taber Do	orsalis-	-
13. Cancer Malignant Disease	1	1
14. Diabetes		
15. Cereberal Haemorage	1	-

0 ACTIVITIES THE RESERVE CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPE

Cause of Death(cont)	M.	F.
16. Heart Disease	6	17
17. Aneurysm	-	-
18. Other circulatory diseases	-	4
19. Bronchitis	-	-
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	2	2
21. Other respiratory diseases	1	-
22. Septic Ulcer	-	-
23. Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-
24. Other disease of liver	-	-
25. Other digestive disease	1	-
26. Acute and chronic neuphritis	-	2
27. Puerperal Sepsis	-	-
28. Other puerperal causes	-	-
29. Congenital debility, premature		
birth, malformations, etc.	1	-
30. Senility	-	1
31. Suicide	ano .	
32. Other violence	1	-
33. Other defined diseases	1	2

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Public Officers.

Medical Officer of Health (part time)
Alastair Hair, M.B., Ch.B.,

Sanitary Inspector (part time), R. J. Morris, P.A.S.I., M.R.S.I., Ser. S.I.

2. Laboratory Facilities. The examinations and analyses of water, milk and foodstuffs are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County - H. J. Evans, of Liverpool.

No milk or food samples were submitted during the year.

Various samples of water were submitted for chemical and bacteriological analyses, details of which are appended.

- (b), (c), (d) and (e). The services mentioned in(2) b.c.d. and e. remain unchanged, full details having been given in the report for 1932, or are carried out by the Radnorshire County Council.
- 3. The Maternity and Child Welfare services are adminstered by the Radnorshire County Council.
- 4. The Supervising Authority under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, is the Radnorshire County Council.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply. As there are three supplies in the district, I will deal with each separately.

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(a). Practically the whole of the Town is served by a piped supply on the constant system through the mains of the Council's Waterworks.

The water for this supply is that obtained from the River Ithon, at a point upstream of the Town. The water is purified by the addition of Alumina Ferric, in varying proportions and averaging 2 grains per gallon. The water is filtered through a battery of five mechanical filters and then sterilized by the addition of "Chloros" (10% solution of Chlorine) which injection varies between 3 to 4 parts per million gallons of water.

The water has, during the year, been tested daily for the amount of free chlorine in the water after one hour's contact of the sterilizing agent, this being maintained at 0.3 to 0.1 parts per million gallons of water.

During the year several happenings occurred. In May it was found that three of the mechanical filters were working stiff and when dismantled it was found that the filtrate was gummy from the top to the bottom. This heaviness was put down to the exceptional heavy work required by the filters to cleanse and purify a crude river water without previous sedimentation of organic matter.

In June, two bacteriological analyses were reported to be unsatisfactory and action was taken to trace the contamination. This was traced to the open storage reservoir which, as reported by me in my report of 1936, had been cleaned of sand. The tank was then put out of action.

Late in June, complaints were received of the extremely bitter taste in the water supply and it was decided to call in Doctor Beale, of the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London, to make an examination of the whole Undertaking. The report of Dr. Beale upon his inspection was received in the middle of July and contained details of samples of water taken by him and by yhr Sanitary Inspector, and terminated with recommendations for the improvement of the supply. Certain items of this recommendations were immediately put into effect and for the remainder, which are constructional, the necessary plans are being drafted out.

The bacteriological reports on the water after June were very good and the taste trouble was minimised by the experimental use of Ammonium Sulphate injection into the crude water before filtration at the rate of 3 parts per million gallons of water.

Water Supply (b). This supply is from three springs situated above the north end of the Town and supplies this end with water during wet seasons. The gathering grounds of the springs is surface collection and early in the year the collecting pipes were lifted, cleaned and relayed. In November a sample of this water was taken for besteriological analyses and found to contain Coli. Another sample, taken in December, was found to be pure.

Water Supply (c). This supply is that maintained by the Doldowlod Estate Company and supplies premises erected upon their estate. During August the supply became very dirty and insufficient and it was necessary for them to carry out the cleansing of the: storage reservoir, sedimentation tanks and collecting pipes. During the carrying out of these works, water was supplied to the Company through the Council's mains, a volume of 700,000 gallons being supplied. After the carrying out of the alterations, the supply of water from this source was good.

Works of maintenance and repair were carried out on the Council's supplymains during the year and six new connections to houses were made. The scraping of 300 lin yards of water mains was

0 ons not alled bedres not trans only and the content of the content carried out and a length of 120 yards of 2-inch main laid, this latter to connect up two dead ends which for some years have caused discolouration in the water of adjoining premises.

(ii). Drainage and Sewerage. Further works of relief sewering and the seperation of surface water from the sewers has been carried out.

A new sewer comprising 9-inch and 6-inch glazed socket pipes of a total length of 200 yards was laid under the Private Street Works Act, 1892, this sewer being joined up to the existing system to carry storm water and also to prevent flooding in eight houses.

A length of 120 yards of 9-inch surface water drain was also laid to carry away surface water which was previously entering the foul water sewerage system.

A further scheme has been planned by the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for the laying of a 9-inch and 12-inch relief sewer for the major length of one of the chief sewers and this scheme was submitted to the Ministry of Health for sanction to borrow the money for its construction.

Sewerage Disposal. The sedimentation tanks and grit chambers at the Rhydllyndu and Ddole Road Disposal Works were cleaned out during the year and extra sludge lagoons constructed at Rhydllyndu for the reception and drying of sludge.

- 2. Rivers and Streams. Action was taken in one case to check the pollution of a stream by oil and laundry waste. New drains were laid at the premises and the pollution stopped.
- 3. (i) Closet Accommodation. All properties in the Town have wash-down closets with water supplied from the Council 's Waterworks, with the exception of six cottages and various farmsteads in the outlying areas. There is no sewer near to the cottages for drainage.
- (ii) Public Cleansing. The services in connection with house and trade refuse collection and disposal, street cleansing and public conveniences, are carried out by the Council's own staff.

The collection and transport of refuse is carried out by the Council Refuse Motor Vehicle and in August of 1937, a new low leading dustless leader was put into service. The original vehicle, which had been in service for nine years was retained for use on refuse removal and other work.

The disposal is by incineration in a troble retort of "Horsefall" construction.

A scheme for the hire of refuse bins was drafted up in September, 1937 but no further action has been taken in the natter.

In October of 1937 a hand baling machine was obtained for the baling of tins which were becoming a great nuisance, due to the accumulation filling up the tip rapidly and forming harbours for the breeding of rats and flies.

(111) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA . --

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SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF LLANDRINDOD WELLS FOR 1937.

NO. of visits re nuisances 112 No. registered Nil. Visits re works in progress 17 OFFENSIVE TRADES. Notices issued:- No. registered Nil. (a) Informal. 21 WATER SUPPLY.
Visits re works in progress 17 OFFENSIVE TRADES. Notices issued:- No. registered Nil. (a) Informal. 21 WATER SUPPLY.
Notices issued:- No. registered Nil. (a) Informal. 21 WATER SUPPLY.
(a) Informal. 21 WATER SUPPLY.
(b) Statutory 1 Wells sunk. Nil.
Notices complied with 21 No. of samples taken 15 of
Outstanding 1 town
Legal Proceedings 1 No, found polluted 3
HOUSING. No. of wells repaired
Inspections as per sec.D. 113 No. closed. Nil.
FOOD PREPARING PLACES. Houses connected to
No. of Inspections. 18 supply Nil.
SLAUGHTER HOUSES ETC. New Houses connected 4
No. registered or licensed. 4 New connections to houses 3
No. of Inspections. 45 INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
No. of Voluntary surrenders No. of Inquiries Nil.
of unsound foods. 25 No. taken to Hospital Nil.
No. of seizures of unsound food Nil.No. of houses disinfected l
COWSHEDS. Bedding and clothing 1
No. registered. 9 No. of houses disinfected
No. of Inspections. 27 re fleas, lice, etc. 1
STABLES AND PIGGERIES. HOUSE DRAINAGE.
No. of Inspections. 4 No.laid or relaid 3
DAIRIES. No.cleansed trapped or
No. registered. 9 ventilated 2
No. of inspections. 27 Spouting, waste-pipes,
MILKSHOPS. sinks, etc. rectified 4
No, registered. 3 No, of cesspools cleansed Nil.
No, registered. 3 No, of cesspools cleansed Nil. No. of inspections 3 No. repaired Nil.
BAKEHOUSES . WATER CLOSETS .
No registered. 6 No. provided Nil.
No. of inspections. 16 No. improved or repaired 3
WORKSHOPS & FACTORIES. PRIVIES, ASHPITS
No. registered. 55 No.of new Nil.
No. of inspections. 42 No. repaired Nil.
SCAVENGING. No.converted to W.C.s. Nil.
No. of Privies, ashpits, etc. No. to pail closets Nil.
emptied. Nil.No. to earth closets Nil.
No.of accumulations of refuse
removed. 2500 TOTAL NO.OF INSPEC-
approx.TIONS AND VISITS MADE 464

Signed

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

- (iv) SHOPS. The shops of the district have been inspected under the provisions of the Shop Act, 1934, which relate to ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences and under present arrangements have, in all cases, proved satisfactory.
- (v) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the Town and it is inspected periodically by the Sanitary Inspector and myself.

One sample of the water was taken for a bacteriological analysis and this was reported to be satisfactory.

- (vi) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. 1. Action was taken in one case for the eradication of bed bugs in a maids' bedroom of a boarding house. (2) Dis-infestation was carried out by fumigation, lifting of skirtings and mouldings and the stripping of walls.
- SCHOOLS. There are two elementary schools and one secondary school in the district, they being under the control of the Radnorshire County Council.

The sanitary conditions and water supply to the schools is satisfactory.

SECTION D.
HOUSING.1. Inspection of dwelling houses
during the year. 1 (a). Total number of houses inspected for housing defects
(under the Public Health or Housing Acts
(1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing consolidated Regulations, 1925Nil.
(b). Number of inspections made for the purposeNil. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit
for human habitation
referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be, in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation2
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices.
(a) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers
3. Action under Statutory Powers during Year.
(a). Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing
(1). Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs
(a) by Owners4 (5) By Lowal Authority1
(b). Proceedings under Public Health Acts. (1). Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be

remedied.....9

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:- (a) By Owners
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936. (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were madeNil. (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition OrdersNil.
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made, Nil. the tenement or room having been rendered fit (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit
4. Housing Act, 1936-Part 1V-Overcrowding:- (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of yearNil. (2) Number of families dwelling therein
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the yearNil.
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowdingNil.
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to reportNil.
SECTION E. INSPECTION & SUPERVISION OF FOOD.
(a) Milk Supply.
Residential Retailers
Many of these purveyors sell both loose and bottled milk.
One purveyor holds a licence for a tubercolosis herd.
Visits to cowsheds during the year19 Visits to cowsheds in Colwyn Rural District3 Visits to dairies and milkshops during year22
Samples of milk for bacteriological and other contaminations are taken by the County Foods and Drugs Officer for the County Medical Officer of Health.

Tests for cleanliness were carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and are as follows:-

(b). Meat and Other Foods.

Action taken with regard to meat and other foods, including inspection of meat, slaughter houses, shops, stalls and vehicles and other places where food is prepared.

Slaughter houses registered......4
No. of Inspection of Houses.....18
No. of Notices......4
No. of Carcases inspected....45 Beasts, 15 calves,
210 sheep, 32 pigs and 150 poultry.

As far: as possible the whole of the meat offered for retail sale is examined either by ante and post-mortem inspection or by inspection of meat and carcases hung in shops.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	ttle, ex- ding cows.	Cows.	Calve	Sheep & Lambs	Pig
Number killed (if known- Number inspected	156 45	5 2	35 15	1040 210	75 32
All diseases except tubercolosis Wholecarcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	Nil	1	60	Nil
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tubercolosis	18%	-	7%	29%	-
Tubercolosis only. Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with Tubercolosis	Nil ,	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The chief diseases for which organs were condemned were flukes and other parasitic diseases

Food Preparing Places.

Number of inspections......15.

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Food surrendered and destroyed: --

25 tins of fruit. 10 tins of fish. 6 tins of vegetables. 8 jars of meat paste. 40 lbs of apples. 25 lbs. of fish.

(c). Adulteration, etc.

The adminstration with regard to the Food and Drugs Act, 1928, the Artificial Cream Act, 1929, the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927, the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 and 1927 and the Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations 1925 to 1927, is carried out by the Officers of the Radnorshire County Council.

(d). Chemical and bacteriological examinations of food is carried out by the Officers of the Radnorshire County Council.

(e). Nutrition.

No action taken by Local Authority.

SECTION F. Prevalence of and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

No cases of notifiable infectious diseases occurred. Influenza and Whooping Cough occurred in mild form.

No action was taken to provide artificial immunization.

Notifiable diseases during 1937.

	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	Nil		
Scarlet Fever	Nil		
Diphtheria	Nil		
Enteric Fever (including			
Paratyphoid)	Nil		
Peurperal Fever	Nil		
Peurperal pyrexia	Nil		
Pneumonia	Nil		
Other diseases generally notifiable (Specify same	e) Nil		
Other diseases notifiable	The second secon		
locally	Nil		
		Nil	Nil

3. Cancer No action.

5. <u>Tubercolosis</u>.

New cases and Mortality during 1937.

^{4. (}a) Prevention of Blindness No action.
(b) Tubercolosis. No special action has been taken by the Council under the Regulations, this being carried out by the Radnorshire County Council.

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Ast. 1920, the Astifician with regard to the Food and Isuga Ast. 1929, the Public Scales Ast. 1929, the Public Scales astificated with Regardations, 1920 and 1927, the Public Health Health Regardations, 1920 and 1927 and the Public Regardation and the Public Regardation for the Public Regardation of the Public Regardation of the Public Regardation of the Public Regardation of the Public Regardation Regardation of the Public Regardation Regardation of the Public Regardation Regardation Regardation of the Public Regardation Regard

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Age periods	New Cases				Death					
go porrous	Respin	ratory	Non-resp	iratory	Respin	ratory	Nor	iay		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	_		
1-4 5-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
15-24	1	_	-	-	1	=	-	-		
25-34 35-44	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-		
45-54	=	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
55-65 65 and upwards		-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
april april a	-	7						-		
	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-		

WATER ANALYSIS.

Observations on the Reports of Examinations of Water.

The bacteriological purity of the water has been maintained at a good standard, but it has been found that complaints are still periodically received, of the unpalatability of the water

Tabulation of Bacteriological Analyses for the year 1937, carried out by H. J. Evans, 9A, The Temple, Dale Street, Liverpool.

			1000						
		Coli pres	ent	in(ccs)				Remarks
	No.	of organ-	100	50	25	20	10	5 1	
		isms		- 00	20	20	10	0 1	
3rd Mar. 1937	THE REAL PROPERTY.	2	-	-	-	_	-		Water Excellent
16th Apr.1937		14	-	_	-	_	_	_	" I I II
28th May.1937		5	-	TUDE	ye ş	TO 9 7	mo e		Not satisfactor
19th June1937			-	11	111	II .	, - 5		Not satisfactory
28th " 1937	-	9 8 3	_	11	_				
27th Sep. 1937		3				-5			0044-0-4
20th Oct. 1937		2							Satisfactory
10th Dec. 1937		2			-	-	-		do.
		~	-	-		-	-		do.
Sample from Gon	rse Sr	ring							
14th Dec. 1937		2		7700	***				37
		~	-	yes	yes	-			Not satisfactory
Sample from Tel	nin s	nd Novade	Qn.	***					
14th Dec. 1937	prii c	2	Dp.		_				
		~	-	yes	-	-			Satisfactory
Ana	Treie	oomnied.	+	h	D.,	-	-		
River Water	*1 NO 10	carried	out	ру	Dr.	Res	TTG.		
8th June 1937	7	200							
After filtratio	n hu+	,200	yes	yes	yes	Byes	3 yes-		Unpurified
8th June 1937	n but	180	nio	rina	t101	1.	- 11		
From Service Re		100						-	Unsterilized
8th June 1937	BULVO	9						191	
Service tap in	TI come	9	-	-			-	-	Water Excellent
8th June 1937	Town	30							
11th Aug. 1937		12	-	-			-	-	" "
TTOIL WOR. 1994		120	-	-				-	11 11

113				
			-	

WATER ARALIES.

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for the year 1957, corried
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The Tunile, Date Street,
Liverpools

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TABULATION OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES FOR YEAR 1937

Date of Sample	Free Amm- onia	Aluminoid Ammonia	Chlor- ine	As salt	Total Hardness	Nitr- ates	Nit- rites	Oxy. con- sumed. th. 4h.
19th June	Nil	0.006	1.10	1.80	5.43	0.08	Nil (0.0210118
Dr. Beale 8th June	River Wa	0.018	1.10	0.00	7.0	Absent	Absent	- 0.14
Outlet of	Filters.	0.014	-	1.1	7.5	Absent	Absent	- 0.13
Supply Tap	0.008	0.013	-	1.1	7.0	Absent		
	0,008	0.012	-	1.1	7.0	Absent	Absent	- 0.09

Yours faithfully,

ALASTAIR HAIR, M.B., Ch. B.,

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BELD BO.				DL.E.	80040		
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£40 +.		6.1	Eal	*	420,0		
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20-6 -					820-0		