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Contributors

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LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

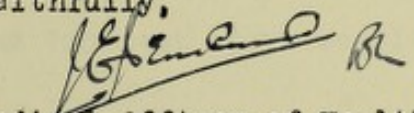
Town Hall,
LLANDRINDOD WELLS.

To the Chairman and Members.

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report on the sanitary conditions and vital statistics of the Urban District for the year 1948.

This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health and presents briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department.

Yours faithfully,


Medical Officer of Health.

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LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1948.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of District	...	1509 acres.
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident population. Mid.1948.	...	3381 persons.
No. of Inhabited houses at the end of year (Including Flats).	...	962
Rateable Value-31st.December,1948.	...	£24218
Product of a Penny Rate.	...	£95. 15. 0

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Urban District is situated in the centre of the County of Radnor and the surrounding countryside is agricultural and moorland. The nearest large centre of population is 40 to 60 miles away and the town is the largest in the County.

The town stands between 600 and 700 feet above sea level, faces west and north west.

The climate is healthy and congenial, the climatological conditions of 1948 were as under:-

Total Rainfall	-	45.24 inches.
Total Sunshine	-	1.350.8 hours.
Highest Maximum Temperature	-	°F } No thermometer
Average Maximum Temperature	-	°F }
Lowest Minimum Temperature	-	18°F
Average Minimum Temperature	-	41°F

OCCUPATIONS. The report on the year 1947 in respect of the occupations of the town can be repeated, the gradual change then referred to continuing at a slow but noticeable rate.

The holiday season of 1948 was not up to expectations, an exceptionally wet summer preventing the full enjoyment of the open air facilities which the town provides to holiday makers and also preventing the enjoyment of the countryside and hills around.

There was no noticeable distress in the district and full employment of all able bodied employable people was continued.

Housing conditions were noticeably improving and the unsettled families of the population found improved accommodation in flats or rooms.

The difficulties of flat occupation by young families became more difficult as the number of children in the families increased and the parents are noticeably worried when the difference in ages of oldest and youngest make it necessary for the older to be out of doors and the younger indoors. Lack of garden space to the houses converted into flats is made up for by the playgrounds and open spaces provided by the Council, but these are not always near at hand to the flats.

The occupation of 13 of the new Council Houses principally by families with children who were previously in flat dwellings eased some of these difficulties for a while and the effect on the health and liveliness of the children concerned was most noticeable.

TABLE 1.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1948.

			Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births	(Legitimate ...	...	43	24	19
	(Illegitimate ...	...	5	3	2
Still Births	...	...	2	2	Nil
			50	29	21

Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated population:-

Live Births	...	... 14.2
Still Births	...	... 40.0

DEATHS.

			Total.	Male.	Female.
No. of Deaths	...	...	39	22	17

The death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is 11.5.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	Nil.
Death rate from Puerperal Causes	...	Nil.

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:-

Infant deaths under 1 year	...	...	2
All Infants per 1000 live births	...	...	41.7
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births	...	...	41.7
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	...	...	Nil
Death from Child Birth	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (All Ages)	...	...	10
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 neither was there any sickness or invalidity of note.

TABLE 2
CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
All Causes	22	17
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever		Nil
2. Measles		Nil
3. Scarlet Fever		Nil
4. Whooping Cough		Nil
5. Diphtheria		Nil
6. Influenza		Nil
7. Encephalis Lethargia		Nil
8. Cerebro Spinal Fever		Nil
9. Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	Nil
10. Other Tuberculosis Diseases		Nil
11. Syphilis		Nil
12. General Paralysis of Insane Taber Dorsalis		Nil
13. Cancer Malignant Disease	5	5
14. Diabetes		Nil
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage		Nil
16. Heart Disease	7	4
17. Aneurysm		Nil
18. Other Circulatory Diseases		Nil
19. Bronchitis	1	1
20. Pneumonia (All Forms)		Nil
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	Nil
22. Peptic Ulcer		Nil
23. Cirrhosis of Liver		Nil
24. Other Disease of Liver		Nil
25. Other Digestive Disease	1	Nil

Causes of Death.		M.	F.
26.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis		Nil
27.	Puerperal Sepsis		Nil
28.	Other Puerperal Causes		Nil
29.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations etc.	Nil	1
30.	Senility		Nil
31.	Suicide	1	1
32.	Other violence	Nil	2
33.	Intercranial Vascular Lesions	4	3
34.	Other undefined diseases	1	Nil

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Public Officers :-

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)
J. Brys Jenkins, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.

Sanitary Inspector (Part-time)
R.J. Morris, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.I., Cert.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector Improver (Part-time)
L. Allen.

2. Laboratory Facilities. The examination and analysis of water, milk and food stuffs are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County Laboratories, Carmarthen. Analyst - H.J. Evans.

Various samples of water were submitted during the year for chemical and bacteriological analysis, details of which are appended.

3. Health Services. The following services were carried out by the Radnorshire County Council prior to the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

- {1} Home Nursing. {2} Clinics. {3} School Dental Treatment.
{4} Mental Health. {5} Maternity and Child Welfare. {6} Vaccination and Immunisation.

The ambulance service prior to the Act was provided by the Llandrindod Wells Hospital

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY. The two water supplies of the district, Doldowlod Estate Supply and the Town Supply were satisfactory throughout the twelve months.

The town supply administered by the Council proved satisfactory and the purification of the river water was efficiently maintained.

The further improvement of the mechanical filters by insertion of new type strainers was proceeded with and the allocation of certain expenditure to this work is proving its value in the greater efficiency of the filters.

The maintenance of service reservoirs has been efficient, the Llanfawr Service Reservoir being cleaned out during the year.

Early in the year, following chemical analysis of the water, the Public Analyst recommended the injection of a solution of lime. Particulars and cost of suitable plant was obtained but the installation was not proceeded with. The injection of soda ash was however adopted for the purpose of reducing the corrosive action of the water and raising the p.h. value to neutral, the amount of injection being $\frac{1}{2}$ grain per gallon.

The electric powered centrifugal pump installed in 1947 was put into fulltime service during the year. This pumping set when first set up, did not fulfil the makers specification for output and new impellers were supplied by the makers to give the requirements.

The purification plant efficiency was maintained as shown by the bacteriological and chemical reports.

Summary of Analysts reports on the bacteriological analysis are as in Table 3 below, Chemical Analysis as in Table 4.

The volume of water available in supply was adequate for all purposes and Table 5 gives comparisons with past years.

TABLE 3.

Bacteriological analysis for the year 1948.

Carried out by H.J. Evans, Public Analyst, The Castle, Carmarthen.

Water taken from Domestic Taps.

Date of Sample.	No. of Organisms 48 hours @ 22°C.	Cold present in coo			Remarks.
		100,50,25,20,10,5,1			
23.1.48.	12	Nil			Highly
4.8.48.	32	Nil			Satisfactory.
28.10.48.	8	Nil			ditto
9.11.48.	10	Nil			ditto

TABLE 4.

Chemical Analysis:- Date of Sample 9. 11. 48.

No.1. Raw River Water. No. 2. Sample after flocculation and filtration but before chlorination. No.3. as delivered from house taps.

	Parts per 100,000.		
	No.1.	No.2.	No.3.
Free Ammonia	Trace	0.019	0.021
Aluminoid Ammonia	0.021	0.002	0.002
Chlorides as Cl ₂	1.15	1.15	1.15
Calculated as Common Salt	1.90	1.90	1.90
Total Solids	9.0	9.0	9.0
Nitrates	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrites	Nil	Nil	Nil
Oxygen Consumed at 27°C			
in 4 hours	0.371	0.064	0.056
in 15 minutes	0.116	0.008	0.007
Additional features:-			
Lime as CaO	1.46	1.46	1.47
Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	3.0	2.5	2.5
" Hardness "	3.0	3.0	3.0
pH Value	7.1	6.3	6.4
pH S.	8.9	9.0	9.0
Saturation Index(Langelier)	-1.8	-2.7	-2.6
Colour (Hazen Units)	20	0	5

Bacteriological.

No. of Organisms per cc developed on Agar during 48hrs. @ 37°C	68	4	2
No. of Organisms per cc developed on Agar during 48hrs. @ 22°C	620	29	10
Coliform Organisms per 100 coo	18 +	2	Nil
Faecal coli per 100 coo	3	Nil	Nil

Remarks :- A comparison between the figures given above shows that flocculation and filtration have been satisfactory. Low pH Value and total alkalinity suggest higher dose of Soda Ash. Water is suitable for drinking and all domestic purposes.

Following reports of green colouration of water in copper piped hot water systems, the Analysts observations were obtained in a sample taken from "Hot water cistern of house" where all copper plumbing and boiler are installed, the report is as under.

	Parts per 100,000
Chlorides as Cl_2	1.30
Calculated as Common Salt	2.14
Total Solids	10.00
Nitrates	Nil
Nitrites	Nil
Oxygen Consumed at $27^{\circ}C$	
In 4 hours	0.046
In 15 minutes	0.021
Total Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$	1.0
Total Hardness	1.5
Lime as CaO	1.12
Magnesia as MgO	0.58
Sulphates as SO_3	2.61
pH Value	6.4
pHs	9.5
Saturation Index (Langelier)	-3.1
Colour (Hazen Units)	10
Copper	0.06
Lead	Nil
Zinc	Nil

Remarks. This water has marked corrosive properties and would be expected to act on metal pipes.

The corrosive property could be corrected by lime injection after filtration or by passing through a magnesite chamber.

TABLE 5.
WATER CONSUMPTION
(All consumers, including Trades).

Year.	Water Pumped to Service Reservoirs.	Estimated Population Served.	Estimated Consumption per head per day.
1944	79,500,000	Not known	Not known
1945	77,700,000	"	"
1946	68,630,000	3,000	62
1947	66,410,000	3,150	57
1948	64,100,000	3,500	50.1

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

DRAINAGE. The drainage of the Town is on the partial separate system, all road waters and a certain volume of roof and yard waters being drained separately into suitably placed water courses.

Certain flooding occurred to a group of premises due to inadequate capacity of road drains and the necessary stops were in hand at the end of the year for prevention of re-occurrence.

The sewer system of the town was found adequate and no flooding of premises was reported due to any sewer defects or inadequacy.

Blockages in drains and sewers occurred but not to any great extent with the exception of one line of 6 inch sewer where tree roots had entered the sewer.

There were no proposals under consideration for construction of relief or other sewers.

SEWERAGE DISPOSAL.

The three sewerage disposal works dealt with the purification of sewage to give effluents of moderate condition. The developments of constructing concrete channels, humus settling trough and subsidiary works at Rhyddlyndu disposal works were completed and the enlargement of humus settling lagoon was commenced, the use of this latter is proposed when the volume of river water is low during the summer months on which occasions the fine suspended solids cause slime growth on the river bed.

RIVERS AND STREAMS. No action was taken in regard to pollution.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. Collection of household and trade refuse proceeded as in other years by Councils own staff and vehicles.

Collection is made from the rear of properties, no kerb side collection being done.

Early in the year the incinerator retorts were overhauled and firebrick repairs carried out. Destruction of refuse by incineration was carried out from March to October.

Repairs to incinerator buildings were made in the spring of the year, a new roof covering being carried out.

With intermittent tipping on site at the Rhyddlyndu Sewerage Works. In October, the Council approved of a plan to carry out control tipping at Llanfawr Fields on land belonging to the Council and where it is planned to construct playing fields, this tipping proceeded satisfactory to the end of the year.

The collection of waste paper was maintained at an efficient standard and a total of 46 tons was collected and disposed of up to the end of January 1949.

A new refuse collection vehicle of Karrier Bentam type was put on order to replace that in use and which had been in operation since 1937.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector Department.

TOTAL NO. OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE - 343.

Nuisances.

		<u>Moveable Dwellings-Registered</u>	
		<u>Bakchouses</u>	<u>Nil.</u>
No. of Visits re nuisances	14	No. in use	5
Visits re Works in Progress	7	No. of Inspections	10
Notices Issued.		<u>Lodging Houses.</u>	
(a) Informal letters	21	No. Registered	Nil
(b) Informal Notices	3	<u>Offensive Trades</u>	
(c) Statutory.	1	No. Registered	Nil
Notices complied with.	13	<u>Water Supply.</u>	
Outstanding	1	No. of Samples Taken	9
Legal Proceedings	Nil	No. found polluted	Nil
<u>Housing</u>		<u>Houses and Flats</u>	
Inspections as per report	101	Connected to Supply.	960
<u>Food Preparing Places.</u>		New Houses Connected	14
No. of Inspections		New Connections to	
Food Manufacture.	10	Houses	7
No. of Inspections Restaurants	9	Population supplied	
<u>Slaughter Houses etc.</u>		direct to houses	3280
No. of Visits (approx)	140	Population supplied	
No. of Condemnations	466	by means of standpipes	101
No. of Seizures of Unsound		<u>Infectious Diseases.</u>	
food.	1	No. of Inquiries	3
<u>Cowsheds.</u>		No. taken to Hospital	Nil
No. Registered	7	No. of houses disinfected	Nil
No. of Inspections	14	<u>Bedding and Clothing</u>	<u>Nil</u>
No. of Retailers	20	No. of houses disinfected	
No. of Milk Samples under		re fleas and lice etc.	1
Ministry of Agriculture Scheme	315	<u>House Drainage.</u>	
No. of Category A	270	No. laid or relaid	17
No. of Category B	18	No. cleansed	9
<u>Dairies</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>Water Closets</u>	
No. Registered	8	No. improved or repaired.	1
No. of Inspections.	8		

No. of Bucket Closets in the District.	8
No. of Cess Pools in the District.	1
No. of Earth Closets in the District.	2

SHOPS. Shops of the district have been visited as required by the Shops Act, 1934, and the Public Health Act, 1936, and in all cases arrangements for staff have been found satisfactory.

CAMPING SITES.

1. Number of Sites in area for camping purposes during 1948 - 1.
2. Number of Camping Sites in respect of which licences have been issued. Nil
3. The estimated maximum number of campers in the area at on time during the summer season of 1948 would be 30 (Boy Scouts)

SMOKE ABATEMENT - No action taken.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the town, and this was open in 1948 for a short period. The wet weather of August prevented extensive use. Checks on chlorination were made.

SCHOOLS. There are two elementary schools and one secondary school in the district under the control of the Radnorshire County Council. There is one Emergency Training College in the Town.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year:-
 - (1)(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts). - 101
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. - 101
2. (a) No. of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation - Nil
- (b) No. of Dwelling Houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. - 1
- (c) No. of Dwelling Houses rendered fit as a result of informal action. - 1

One statutory notice was served under the Public Health Act.

Nil under the Housing Act.

No action was taken under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

No proceedings were taken under this Section 12 of the Housing Act of 1936.

Three cases of overcrowding were found during the year, and these have since been provided with new accommodation.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK.

Residential Retailers.	2
" Cowkeepers and Retailers.	6
" Cowkeepers and Wholesalers.	1
Non-Resident Retailers and Cowkeepers	12

The sale of bottle milk is extending.

Visits to Cowsheds during the year	14
Visits to Dairies during the year	14

Samples were taken fortnightly for Ministry of Agriculture testing Laboratory at Builth Wells and the following results reported:-
Samples taken 315. Category A. 270. Category B. 18. Category C 27.

Action taken by the Council in respect of unclean milk - Nil.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat. The centralised slaughter of cattle, sheep and pigs greatly simplifies the work of meat inspection as compared with the four registered slaughterhouses in the town pre-war.

ANIMALS KILLED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding			Sheep &	
	Cows.	Cows.	Calves,	Lambs.	Pigs
Number Killed	131		76	4039	16
Number Inspected	109		11	1530	16
All diseases except Tuberculosis, whole carcasses condemned.	1		Nil	10	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	57		1	348	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease (Not T.B.)	44.6%		1.3%	8.8%	6.2%
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcasses Condemned.	4		1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or Organ was condemned,	6		-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected with Tuberculosis	7.6%		1.3%	-	-

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

Food Preparing Places.

Number of Inspections 19

Foods surrendered and destroyed :-

Canned Foods	-183 tins
Corned Beef	- 15 lbs.
Sausage and Sausage Meat	- 14 lbs.
Cheese	-132 lbs.
Fruit	- Nil
Vegetables	- Nil
Bacon and Ham	- 4 lbs.
Fish	-140 lbs.
Margarine	- 49 lbs.

Adulterations. The administration of the Acts dealing with the adulteration of food is carried out by the Officers of the Radnorshire County Council.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food:-

These examinations are carried out by the Officers of the Radnorshire County Council.

Food poisoning Outbreaks.

No cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

One case of notifiable infectious diseases occurred. The Council's Isolation Hospital was not opened and the cases arising were isolated at home or at Hospitals away.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1948.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	Nil	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	"	"	"
Diphtheria	"	"	"
Enteric Fever	1	Nil	Nil
Puerperal Fever	Nil	"	"
Puerperal Pyrexia	"	"	"
Pneumonia	"	"	"
Other Diseases generally notifiable	"	"	"
Acute poliomyelitis	Nil	"	"
<u>Totals.</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>

CANCER - No action taken.

BLINDNESS - No action taken.

TUBERCULOSIS - All action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulation 1925 or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 is taken by the Radnorshire County Council.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality During 1947.

Age Periods	New Cases.		Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0						
1						
5						
15						
25	-----2					
35						
45						
55						
65 and up	----- 1					
<u>Totals.</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Nil</u>

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The number of children immunised for Diphtheria during the year was - 52 as follows :-

Age Group.	No.	Est. Child Population.
Under 1 yr.	12	} -----214
Age 1 yr.	16	
" 2 yrs.	2	
" 3 yrs.	1	
" 4 yrs.	Nil	} -----341
" 5 to 9 yrs.	14	
" 10 to 14 yrs.	7	

RODENT CONTROL WORK FOR
YEAR ENDED 31. 12. 48.

No. of premises inspected (approx). 62

The following premises were treated :-

Business Premises	-----	3
Dwelling Houses	-----	4
Local Authorities property	-----	5

The initial treatment was carried out on the sewers in October, 1948.

96 Manholes were baited.

32 " showed presence of rats and were poisoned.

14 " " poison takes.

The follow up treatment was carried out in December, 1948.

25 Manholes were baited.

8 " showed presence of rats and were poisoned.

3 " " poison takes.
