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25 OCT 1951

LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Town Hall,

LLANDRINDOD WELLS.

25th September, 1951

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 1950.

The report is prepared in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health and deals briefly with most matters within my responsibility as your Medical Officer for the Public Health of your district together with the particulars of work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

Yours faithfully,



*J. G. Evans M. B. B. Ch.*  
Medical Officer of Health.



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# LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1950.

### SECTION A.

#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of District	...	1509 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Mid. 1950	...	3586 persons
No. of Inhabited houses at the end of year (including flats)	...	1013 (an addition of 14 in twelve months)
Rateable Value - 31st December, 1950.	-	£ 24734.
Product of Penny Rate	-	£ 99.7.3.

#### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The natural conditions of the town with its position on the side of a hill standing at a height of 700 feet above sea level has previously been reported upon and it is as well to again stress the healthy situation of the town together with its ideal climatological conditions and purity of air which can be truthfully said to be free from any type of contamination and of a healing and bracing nature. The climatological conditions of 1950 were as under:-

Total Rainfall	...	...	...	...	43.02 inches
Total Sunshine	...	...	...	...	1349.4 hours
Highest Maximum Temperature	...	...	...	...	83°F
Average Maximum Temperature	...	...	...	...	55°F
Lowest Minimum Temperature	...	...	...	...	18°F
Average Minimum Temperature	...	...	...	...	41°F

The year's weather was extremely variable and like the rest of the British Isles rainfall was above average. Sunshine records shew a below average figure.

No serious illnesses could be traceable to the variable weather of the year, the influenza epidemic was much lighter than the large populated areas of the Country.

OCCUPATIONS. The reports of the past three years in respect of the occupations of the town can be repeated, the gradual change of the occupations from that solely in connection with the Health and Holiday Resort to that of other occupations still continues and a good number of the population is now directly engaged in the Nationalized Public Utility Services, Public Administration and Distributive trades, these services covering a large surrounding rural area which is gradually extending. The changes taking place leads one to consider that in a very few years to come, any possible additional centralised national undertakings such as public markets, slaughter houses, transport and public services should be centred in the town which is proving so adequate for those already centred on it and which provides the personnel of those undertakings with all possible facilities not found elsewhere in the County or adjoining Counties.

The number of retired persons coming to reside in the town is gradually increasing and each passing year sees the immigration of these people to the safety and quiet of the resort.



The holiday season of 1950 was good and the number of visitors to the town shewed an improvement on previous years. There was an increase in the number of Coach Tours entering the town of both these visiting of a single day and those remaining overnight.

Foreign tourists were also noticeable and the efforts of certain hotels in this direction must prove eventually to be great benefit to the trade of the town.

Housing conditions again improved and notwithstanding greatly increased costs it was noticeable that owner occupiers and owners were making every effort to maintain houses and flats in good habitable condition.

TABLE 1.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1950.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Live Births( Legitimate	45	28	17
{ Illegitimate	2	2	Nil
Still Births	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>
	47	30	17

Birth Rate per 1000 of the Estimated Population:-

Live Births	...	...	13.1
Still Births	...	...	Nil

DEATHS

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
No. of Deaths	37	20	17

The death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is:- 10.31

Death Rate 1949 -	13.38
1948 -	11.5
1947 -	12.6

Deaths from Puerperal causes	...	...	Nil
Death rate from Puerperal causes	...	...	Nil
Death rate of infants under one year of age:-			
Infant deaths under one year.....			2
All infants per 1000 live births .....			42.5
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births .....			44.4
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births...			Nil
Death from child birth .....			Nil
Death from malignant diseases .....			3
Deaths from measles .....			Nil
Death from Whooping Cough (All ages).....			1
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  
STATISTICS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.
All Causes	20	17
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory	Nil	Nil
2. Tuberculosis other	Nil	Nil
3. Syphilitic disease	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough	1	Nil
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
8. Measles	Nil	Nil
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	Nil	Nil
10. (i) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	Nil	Nil
(ii)       "       "       - Lung, bronchus	Nil	Nil
(iii)       "       "       - breast	Nil	Nil
(iv)       "       "       - uterus	Nil	Nil
(v) Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	Nil
(vi) Leukaemia Aleukaemia	Nil	Nil
11. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	2	8
12. Diabetes	Nil	Nil
13. Coronary disease, angina	3	1
14. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
15. Other heart disease	3	4
16. Other circulatory disease	Nil	Nil
17. Influenza	Nil	1
18. Bronchitis	1	Nil
19. Other diseases of respiratory system	Nil	Nil
20. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	2	Nil
21. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	Nil	Nil
22. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1
23. Hyperplasia of prostate	Nil	Nil
24. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	Nil
25. Congenital malformations	Nil	Nil
26. Other defined and illdefined diseases	2	1
27. Motor Vehicle Accidents	Nil	Nil
28. All other accidents	Nil	Nil
29. Suicide	Nil	Nil
30. Homicide and operations of War	Nil	Nil

## SECTION B.

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

#### 1. Public Officers:-

Medical Officer of Health (Part time)  
J. Emrys 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 (Part time)  
L. Allen. A.S.I.A. Cert.S.I. (Up to November, 1950)

#### 2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

(a) The examination and analysis of water, sewage effluents and stream contamination are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County Laboratories, Carmarthen. Analyst - H. J. Evans.

(b) The examination of milk and ice-cream samples are carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Shrewsbury Infirmary.

3. HEALTH SERVICES. The following services are carried out by the Radnorshire County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946, as detailed in the brochure issued by the County Council and approved



by the Welsh Board of Health.

- (i) Maternity and Child Welfare.
- (ii) Clinics.
- (iii) Dental care for expectant mothers and nursing mothers and young children together with School Dental Services.
- (iv) Midwives Service, delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (v) Health Visiting delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (vi) Home Nursing delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (vii) Vaccination and immunisation of children under five and of school age is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners of the parents choice or by the County Medical Officer.

The vaccination of adults is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners.

- (viii) Ambulance Service.

(ix) Prevention of Illness, Care and after care of persons suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness and other types of illness is organised under the aegis of the County Health Committee.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. No difficulties on water supplies occurred throughout the year.

The main source of the supply administered by the Council the source of which is the River Ithon was efficiently maintained and the purification by mechanical filtration and chlorination was satisfactory as shewn by the tabulation of Analysts report tabulated in Table 3.

Chlorination is maintained to give a free chlorine content of between 0.08 and 0.1 p.p.m after 30 minutes contact.

The ph value of the water is maintained at neutral by the infection of soda ash.

The two service reservoirs have been maintained in good condition and the necessary cleansing was carried out.

A short extension of water main was laid for private housing sites on the fringe of the Common off Temple Street, otherwise no alterations to mains or services were found necessary.

No further action has been taken in regard to low supplies in certain parts of the town due to service main corrosion. Several house service pipes were renewed, this being made necessary by blockage due to corrosion in every case. This renewal proved satisfactory.

Statistics in respect of the Water Supply are detailed below:-

Estimated Population supplied from public water mains.....	3561
Estimated population/ <sup>not</sup> supplied from public water mains.....	26 persons
Number of dwelling houses of flats supplied direct into premises.....	989 dwellings
Number of dwellings houses and farms supplied by means of stand pipes.....	24 dwellings
Estimated population supplied.....	72 persons
Number of premises (farms) with own piped supplies.....	2
Number of premises (farms) with no piped supply.....	3
Premises supplied from mains and outside Urban District....	11



TABLE 3.

Bacteriological Analysis for the year 1950 carried out by H.J.Evans, Public Analyst, The Castle, Carmarthen.

Water taken from domestic taps:-

Town supply

Date of sample.	No. of Organisms 48 hrs. @ 22°C	Coli present - CCs 100. 50.25.20.10.5.1.	Remarks.
17.1.50.	6	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
7.3.50	38	Nil	ditto
2.4.50	17	Nil	ditto
29.6.50.	59	Nil	ditto
11.7.50.	18	Nil	ditto
8.9.50	19	Nil	ditto
11.10.50	135	Nil	ditto
11.12.50.	9	Nil	ditto

Gorse Spring Supply:-

(Untreated)

Date of sample.	No. of Organisms 48 hrs. @ 22°C	Coli present - CCs 100.50.25.20.10.5.1.	Remarks.
31.1.50.	17	Nil	Highly Satisfactory.
9.6.50.		25	Faecol Coli unsatisfactory.

No chemical analysis of the Town Supply was carried out during the year.

TABLE 4.

Chemical Analysis of Gorse Spring Supply (Untreated)

	Parts per 100,000
Free Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	Nil
Chlorides as $\text{Cl}_2$	2.00
Calculated as Common Salt	3.30
Total Solids	15.00
Nitrates	Nil
Nitrites	Nil
Oxygen consumed at 27°C	
In 4 hours	0.020
In 15 minutes	0.008

Additional Features.

Lime as CaO	3.86
Total alkalinity AD $\text{CaCO}_3$	10.5
Total hardness	10.5
ph value	7.5
ph S.	7.9
Saturation Index (Langelier)	-0.4
Colour (Hazen Units)	5

Remarks

It is a water of good organic purity.  
It has a slight corrosive tendency.



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

Year.	Water Pumped to Service Reservoirs.	Estimated Population Served.	Estimated Consumption per head per day.
1945	77,700,000	Not known	Not known
1946	68,630,000	3,000	62
1947	66,410,000	3,150	57
1948	64,100,000	3,500	50.1
1949	67,490,000	3,438	51
1950	62,010,000	3,586	44.6

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

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

No flooding of premises occurred. No defects of any extent took place and minor blockages in subsidiary branch sewers were the only troubles arising.

The sewer system proved adequate and no proposals were under consideration for the 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.

River pollution was avoided and no loss of fish life was reported.

Further alterations were carried out at the Rhydllyndu Disposal Works, this works receives the major portion of sewage of the town. Draining off channels and diversion channels were completed and extensive cleansing of sludge lagoons proceeded with.

A sample of the effluent from the Rhydllyndu Works was taken on 11th September, the analyst's report being as detailed below.

Sample of Sewage effluent taken from Rhydllyndu Disposal Works at outfall into River Ithon.

	Parts per 100,000
Odour	Slight
Appearance	Slightly Turbid.
Free Ammonia	0.49
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.051
Oxygen consumed at 27°C during 2 hours	0.396
Nitrates	Trace
Nitrites	0.042
Chlorides as Chlorine	4.50
Total solids in solution	23.0
Solids in suspension	0.55
Dissolved Oxygen absorbed during 5 days at 18°C (B.O.D.)	1.99

#### Bacteriological Examination.

No. of organisms per C.C. developed on Agar during 48 hours at 37°C	280
No. of organisms per C.C. developed on Agar during 48 hours at 22°C	Very large



Coliform organisms per 100 ccs  
Faecal Coli per 100 ccs

180+  
180+

Remarks.

This effluent complied with the General Standard for Effluents suitable for discharge into a stream or river, recommended in the eighth report of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal.

Rivers and Streams. No action taken in regard to pollution. Examinations were carried out of water courses passing through the town and of known outlets of septic tanks connected to houses outside the Urban District. No pollution of any extent was found.

Public Cleansing. Collection of household and trade refuse proceeded as in other years by the Council's own staff and vehicles. The method of collection remained the same.

Disposal of refuse was continued by incineration during the months of May to October and by tipping at Llanfawr Fields from November to April.

The collection of waste paper was maintained, the tonnage of paper sold being 19 tons.

Scrap iron disposed of was 10 tons 17 cwt.

FOOD.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

Residential Registered Retailers	-	2
ditto Dairymen Retailers	-	4
Non-Residential Dairymen Retailers	-	7
Visits to Cowsheds during year	-	2
Visits to Dairies during year	-	3
Action taken by the Council in respect of unclean milk	-	Nil

During the year a special insulated container for dispatch of milk samples "on ice" was obtained and arrangements made for the dispatch of the samples to the Public Health Laboratory, Shrewsbury Infirmary. A few samples were dispatched at the end of the year, the results being as follows:-

Samples for Tuberculosis - Sample Taken - 7

Results - No sample produced tuberculosis.

Samples for Methylene Blue Test. Samples taken 8

Results - Samples satisfying test - 8. Not satisfying - Nil

Meat Inspection. The centralised slaughtering of cattle, sheep and pigs was continued by the Ministry of Food at the Gordon House Slaughterhouse in the middle of the town.

Further representations have been made by the Council to the Ministries for improvements and, if possible, the construction of a small abattoir which would be suitable for a larger area of supply and away from the town centre. No progress has been made, but it is hoped that any new arrangements of the Ministry of Food will include the Council's proposals.



ANIMALS KILLED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number Killed	163		72	3649	66
Number inspected	137		12	2089	64
All diseases except tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	3	Nil	34	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	49		1	163	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	39%		8.3%	9.4%	9.4%
Tuberculosis only:-					
Whole carcasses condemned.	1	4	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.		1			
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.		4%	Nil	Nil	Nil

Shops. Inspections have been carried out by the Sanitary Inspector of Shops and food preparing places including bakehouses, restaurants and hotel kitchens as shewn in the Summary of Work by the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Number of Inspections of Shops - 29  
 " " " " Bakehouses - 7

Foods surrendered or condemned and destroyed.

Canned Foods including fish	-	295 tins
Tinned Milk	-	364 tins
Tinned Meat	-	79 lb.
Cooked Tinned Ham	-	40 lb.
Cooked Pies	-	12
Butter	-	5 cwts.
Bacon	-	105½ lb.
Cheese	-	31½ lb.
Vegetables	-	84 lb.

Byelaws for Handling etc. of Food. The Authority in April, 1950, considered the making of byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1933 based on the model series of the Ministry of Food. These eventually came into force in January, 1951.

Ice-Cream. Inspections of premises registered for the preparation of ice-cream and for the storage for sale of ice-cream were carried on throughout the year.

Number Registered:-

Preparation of Hot Mix Treatment	- Nil.
" " Cold Mix Treatment	- 1
Storage for Sale	- 13.

No sampling of ice-cream was carried out owing to there being no insulated containers available for dispatch of samples. Application



was made to the County Council for the supply of a container but this did not materialise.

Adulteration of Foods. The administration of the Acts dealing with the adulteration of food is carried out by the Officers of the Radnorshire County Council and no particulars are available to my Council.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks. No cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

#### INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Cases of notifiable infectious disease occurred during the twelve months. No cases were transferred to Isolation Hospitals and the cases arising were isolated at home.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1950.

Diseases.	Total cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyre ia	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	29	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Other Diseases notifiable	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	-
	32	-	-

Inspections carried out in respect of infectious diseases - 17

Cancer. No action taken.

Blindness. No action taken.

Tuberculosis. The requirements of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, have been carried out.

No action has been taken under the special powers given to local authorities under these Regulations.

No applications were made under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

#### TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1950.

Age Groups.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and up	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year was - 43 as follows:-

Age Group	No.	Estimated Child Population
Under 1 year	19	
Age 1 year	22	237
" 2 years	1	
" 3 years	1	
" 4 years	-	
" 5 to 9 years	-	345
" 10 to 14 years	-	
	43	582

### HOUSING.

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year:-

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| (a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) | 60 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose   | 96 |
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation Nil
- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| (b) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal action                         | Nil |
| (c) Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 2   |
| (d) Number of Statutory Notices issued requiring remedy of housing defects                        | Nil |
| (e) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of Statutory Notices                       | 2   |
| (f) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which complaints made to Justices                     | Nil |
| (g) Result of complaint to Justices   | Nil |
| (h) Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1949  | 2   |
| (i) Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1950  | Nil |

No additional cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

Properties held under requisition for housing of inadequately housed at end of year - 1

#### Number of new houses erected during the year:-

- |                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| (a) By Council with State Grant | - Nil |
| (b) By private persons          | - 5   |

#### Number of new houses under construction at end of year:-

- |                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| (a) By Council with state grant | - Nil |
| (b) By private persons          | - 2   |

Number of new dwellings provided during year by conversion of properties into flats:-

- |                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| (a) By Council         | - Nil |
| (b) By private persons | - 9   |