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# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1925.

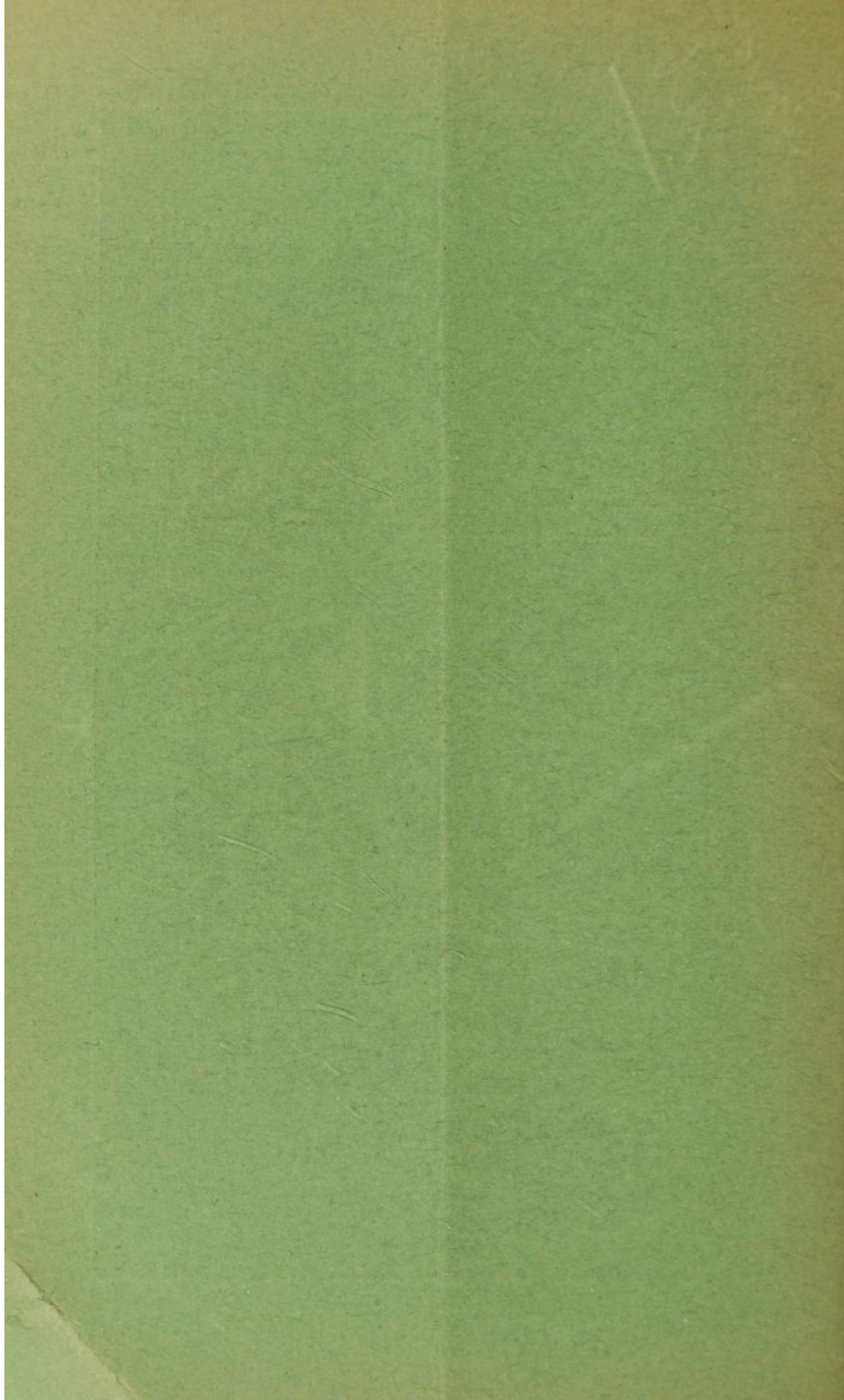
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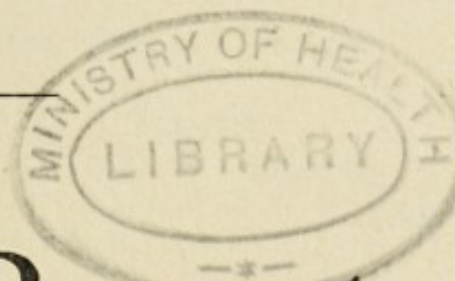
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1926





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# Llanelly Rural District Council.

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## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ending December 31st, 1925.

Tumble,  
Llanelly,  
1926.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Report on the Sanitary state of the District under your supervision during the year 1925, as directed by the Ministry of Health in a Memorandum to Medical Officers of Health.

**Population.**—The estimated population on June 30th, 1925, was 36,440, according to the Registrar-General's Report. This has been issued as a basis in all the tables in this Report.

**Physical Features and General Character of the District.**—The Llanelly Rural District comprises an area of 51,380 acres, and with the exception of a couple of hundred acres, is wholly situated on the South Wales Coalfield; in fact, the area administered by your Council comprises approximately 70 per cent. of the Coalfield in East Carmarthenshire.

**Topography of the District.**—The area is a rough parallelogram-shaped area, the southern boundary of which is formed by the Carmarthen Bay and the estuary of the river Loughor. The western boundary from Kidwelly to Cwmmawr follows practically the north-western boundary of the Coalfield except in two instances, viz. :—(1) Where the portion of the Carmarthen Rural District crosses the river Gwendraeth at Carway; (2) where the northern boundary of the Parish of Pontyberem extends beyond the actual outcrop of the Coalfield to the carboniferous limestone. The eastern boundary is formed by the river Loughor, which divides the Counties of Carmarthen and Glamorgan from Loughor to Pantyffynon. The northern boundary is somewhat irregular, and lies partly along the upper reaches of the river Gwili and partly along the Fferws Brook, which is a tributary of the river Loughor. On the southern edge of the District lie the Borough of Llanelly and the Urban District of Burry Port. There is a belt of low-lying land along the shore of Carmarthen Bay and the estuary of the Loughor, varying from about three miles wide at Pembrey and Kidwelly, to about a mile wide at Loughor.



The north-western boundary follows to some extent the river Gwendraeth Fawr, which has a narrow valley, generally about 400 yards or less in width, except between Pontyeates and the sea, where it expands out to a much wider width. The valley of the Loughor on the east is much wider. Two tributaries of the Loughor, of a fair size, pass through the District, the first being the Morlais, rising between Llannon and Pontyberem and flowing in a south-easterly direction to the Loughor, which it enters at Llangennech; the other, the Gwili, rising near Penygroes, in the Llandilo Rural District, and flows in a southerly direction and forms the boundary for a short distance between the two Rural Districts, and then enters the Llanelly Rural District, still keeping its southward course until it enters the Loughor at Hendy near Pontardulais. The Lliedi is another stream, rising at Mynydd Sylen, not far from the source of the Morlais and about two miles south-west of Pontyberem, and flows in a southward direction through Horeb (near Five Roads), Felinfoel, to Llanelly, where it enters the estuary of the Loughor. The Fferws brook is a small stream flowing from Penygroes to Pantyffynon, where it enters the Loughor river. There are also two streams called the Cwm-mawr and Cwmbach streams, which rise on the high ground between Five Roads and Pembrey, and run in converging valleys in a southerly direction to a point about a mile north of the village of Pwll, where they join and continue as one stream to the estuary of the Loughor, which they enter at Pwll. Another stream, the Fferman, also rises on the high ground behind Pembrey and flows in a deep and narrow valley in a south-westerly direction and enters the Loughor estuary near Burry Port. From the termination of the low-lying belt along the Loughor estuary, the land rises suddenly to form a range of the hills extending between the estuary and the Gwendraeth and Lliedi rivers, the chief points being Brondini Hill near Five Roads (760 ft.), and Pembrey mountain (640 ft.). Between the Lliedi and the Morlais there is also high ground, the highest point being Sylen mountain (952 ft.). Between the Morlais and the Gwili and the Gwendraeth valley there is another high area, the highest point being at Llwynewtta, above the village of Llannon (860 ft. above O.D.). The valleys of the Gwili, Morlais, Lliedi and the smaller streams enumerated are all very narrow with steep sides. It will be seen (from the above description) that the Llanelly Rural District can be likened to a plateau, the central portion with an average height of 500 to 600 ft., intersected by three main parallel narrow valleys, viz., the Lliedi, Morlais and Gwili, bounded on the south by a tidal estuary, on the north-east by high ground, which is a continuation of the plateau, on the east and west by the wider valleys of Loughor and Gwendraeth.

For a number of cogent reasons, the development of the area has been principally along its southern, western, eastern and



northern edges, leaving the central portion as the most undeveloped portion. One of the chief reasons for this is the height of the central plateau, which is comparatively barren as compared with the richer river valleys, and the nature of the coal and the difficulty of winning it in this part of the district. There are six Parishes comprising the area, viz.: Llanelly Rural, Pembrey, Llannon, Llanedy, Llangennech, and Pontyberem. The central plateau area is the most backward in development, and forms a considerable portion of the Parishes of Llanelly Rural, Pembrey, and Llannon. There are only two villages on this plateau, viz.: Five Roads and Horeb, and Llannon, both being at an elevation of over 500 ft. above O.D.

The chief population is gathered together in the Gwendraeth Valley, where there are several growing districts, including Trimsaran, Pontyeates, Pontyberem, Cwmmawr, Tumble, and Cross Hands. The Loughor Valley, where there are the populous centres of Tycroes, Hendy, Llangennech, and Bynea, and finally, the littoral of the estuary of the Loughor, where west of Llanelly lie Furnace, Felinfoel, Dafen, Halfway, and Llwynhendy.

Out of the whole population, roughly 14 per cent. of the inhabitants are dependant upon agriculture, and the remainder are dependant upon coal-mining, steel, tinsplate, and galvanised sheeting and brickworks.

**The Number of Inhabited Houses** in 1921 was 6,237, giving an average of 5.6 persons to each house.

The number in 1925 was 6,882, being an average of 5.3 persons to each house.

**The number of Families or Separate Occupiers** (at Census 1921) was 6,358.

**The Rateable Value** of the District, £143,421, and the sum represented by a penny rate equals £531.

**The Amount of Poor Law Relief** paid in the District was £16,557 15s. 2d., equivalent to 9/1 per head of the population. No provision is made for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children and homeless children in the way of hospital accommodation except at the Poor Law Institution at Llanelly.

**Causes of Sickness.**—There have been no specially noteworthy causes of sickness and invalidity.

**Births** are as follows:—

- 1.—Legitimate—Male, 402; Female, 348; Total, 750.
- 2.—Illegitimate—Male, 10; Female, 11; Total, 21.

The above gives a birth rate of 21.15 per thousand of the population.



**Deaths.**—Male, 228; Female, 213; Total, 441; giving a death rate of 12.10 per thousand of the population.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child-birth:—  
(1) From Sepsis, 1; (2) Other causes, 4.

The deaths of Infants under one year of age:—

Legitimate—69, equivalent to 92 per 1,000 of legitimate births.

Illegitimate—1, equivalent to 47.62 per 1,000 of illegitimate births.

**Hospital Accommodation.**—There is no Hospital accommodation in the District. Surgical cases are treated mostly in the Swansea General Hospital and the Llanelly General Hospital.

Infectious Diseases have to be treated at their own homes for the want of an Isolation Hospital in this area.

**Ambulance Facilities.**—The District is very well provided at the present time with Ambulance Cars provided by the St. John Ambulance Association (Welsh Priory).

#### **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

1. Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—provided by the County Council.
2. Day Nurseries and School Clinics—None.
3. Tuberculosis Dispensaries and Visiting Stations—supplied by the Welsh National Memorial Association, the nearest Station being at Lucania Buildings, Llanelly.
4. Treatment Centre for Venereal Diseases—Swansea General Hospital, by arrangement with the County Council.

#### **Professional Nursing in the Home.**

(a) This is partly provided by Private Associations and partly by the County Council. The former are assisted by the Carmarthen Nursing Association and also the Ministry of Health.

(b) For Infectious Diseases.—In cases of necessity, this is provided by the Local Authority.

The Board of Guardians gives annual grants to the Nursing Associations in their District for voluntarily nursing the Poor.

**Midwives.**—The Carmarthen County Council is the supervising Authority in connection with the Midwives' Act and Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

**Chemical Work.**—The Authority have made arrangement with the Clinical Research Association for the examination of specimens



of Pathological interest and Bacteriological examination of swabs in a case of suspected Diphtheria and Widal's blood test in a suspected case of Typhoid. Swabs and Widal Tubes are supplied to the Medical Practitioners in the District, who are instructed to send specimens immediately a suspicious case of one of these diseases arises, direct to the Association in London. The result is usually obtained in 24 hours by wire to the Practitioner and the M.O.H.

**Legislation in Force.**—The following is a list of adopted Acts in force in the District:—

- (a) Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890, came into force 19-8-1911.
- (b) Dairies, Milkshops and Cowsheds Order (Revised), came into force 1-6-1912.
- (c) Section 25 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.
- (d) Llanelly Rural District Council Water Acts, 1912 and 1917.
- (e) Urban Powers under the Town Police Clauses Act—Regulation of Omnibuses.
- (f) Urban Powers under Section 276 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and Section 90 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, as to Fire Brigade and Appliances.
- (g) Section 79 of the Town Improvements Act, 1847, as to the closing of Roads.

#### **Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.**

The Staff consists of one Medical Officer of Health (Part-time).  
Two whole-time Sanitary Inspectors.

Name of Sanitary Inspector: David Rees.

Address: Alma House, Capel Road, Llanelly.

Name of Sanitary Inspector: E. Morgan.

Address: Cefncaeau, Llanelly.

Date and Nature of Qualifications:—

1. Sanitary Science, Royal Sanitary Institute, 1917.
2. Sanitary Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute, 1907.
3. Surveying and Levelling, 1903.
4. Building Construction, 1911.
5. Special Course in Drainage and Plumber's Work, 1912.

#### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

**Water Supply.**—The Council secured powers in 1912 for the Llanelly Rural Water Act, 1912, for a Scheme for the supply of water for the whole of their area excepting the small portion



adjacent to the Borough of Llanelly already in the limits of supply of the Corporation of Llanelly. The Scheme was commenced in 1914 and completed in 1921. The main features of the Scheme are:—(a) The water is derived from the head-waters of the river Sawdde, the chief left bank tributary of the Towy, near Llanddeusant, on the borders of the Counties of Brecknock and Carmarthen. The intake is at 1,200 feet above sea level, and the Llynfan-fach, which has been raised in top water level by a concrete dam and tunnel, has been converted into a large storage reservoir, with top water level 1,645 feet above sea level. Filter beds are situate on the intake on the river Sawdde. The quality of the water is soft; it is derived from the old red sandstone, and it is one of the purest waters in the country. The water is ideal for industrial purposes, as well as for domestic purposes. (b) There is at the highest point between the valley of the Morlais and the valley of the Gwili, in the District a service reservoir, into which the trunk mains from Llynfan discharge. This reservoir is constructed of masonry and concrete, and acts as a service and distributing reservoir in the district. There are two trunk distributing mains from this reservoir, one passing through Llannon, Five Roads down to Pwll, Trimsaran and Pembrey; the other passes down the Gwili valley to Pontardulais, Llangennech and Bynea. (c) The top water level of Llannon reservoir is 865 feet above sea level. (d) With the exception of Bankffosfelen (which is supplied with Llynfan water by means of a pump fixed near Cwmllethrydissa, and forced into a storage tank on the boundary at an elevation of 680 feet) the Scheme is capable of supplying water to the whole of the district solely by gravitation. (e) The subsidiary mains pass down through the Gwendraeth Valley, and also from Pontardulais to Tyeroes. (f) The total length of the mains is about 100 miles. There is a Contract between the Corporation of Llanelly and the Council, whereby the Corporation takes 200,000 gallons per day of water from the Rural District Council. There are about 156 metered supplies already connected, including a large number of Collieries and also the Tinplate Works and Steel Works in the limits of supply of the Council, who use the water for steaming and all other industrial purposes. The length of the Water Mains laid during the last five years in your district is as follows:—Pontyberem 7,700 yards, Llannon 6,600 yards, Llanedy 16,900 yards, Llangennech 8,300 yards, Llanelly Rural 8,700 yards, and Pembrey 11,330 yards, making a total of 59,530 yards, or approximately 34 miles.

The supply is constant, and the number of houses supplied by the Llanelly Rural Scheme is about 4,160, representing roughly 22,800 of the population. In addition, the Llanelly Corporation, under their Powers, supply in your area about 1,820 houses, representing a population of approximately 10,000.



**Rivers and Streams.**—The Gwendraeth River is polluted by small coals from the screenings of the various Collieries in the valley, and the same remarks apply to the Gwili River, which is polluted chiefly from the Cross Hands Colliery. This matter is being taken up by the County Council in view of getting the nuisance rectified, and it is to be hoped that their efforts will be successful.

The Lliedi River, during the summer months when the flow of water is low, or actually dry, receiving the sewage of the brewery and a few unconnected houses at Felinfoel, and the Berem River at Pontyberem, receiving the sewage of the Council's houses at Parcymynach, give rise to very serious nuisance.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**—The Sewerage of the District presents many difficulties due to the scattered nature of the area, and the many river valleys by which it is intercepted. Nothing was done in regard to drainage until 1912, and in that year the Council prepared a Scheme for the whole of the littoral of the Loughor Estuary from the Loughor Bridge to the boundary of Burry Port, and comprising Pwll, Sandy, Furnace, Felinfoel, Dafen, Halfway, Llwynhendy, and Cwmfelin and Bynea. The Scheme, which consists of three sea outfalls into the estuary and one septic tank sewerage disposal system, was approved of by the Local Government Board in 1914, and with the exception of Loughor, Cwmfelin, and Llwynhendy, was commenced in 1919 and completed in 1925. Up to the end of 1925, we were able to say that 752 houses had a proper Drainage Scheme. This work is now being carried out at the rate of 30 a month. In 1925 the Council decided to prepare a Scheme for the portion of the Gwendraeth Valley, from Upper Tumble to Pontyberem, including Cwmmawr, and it is to be hoped that a Scheme will be submitted to the Ministry of Health during this year.

#### **Closet Accommodation.**

- Number of open midden privies?—None.
- Number abolished during the year?—Nil.
- Number of covered midden privies?—None.
- Number abolished during the year?—Nil.
- Number of pail closets?—6,492.
- Number constructed during the year?—175.
- Number of W.C.'s?—390.
- Number constructed during the year?—168.

#### **Scavenging.**

- Who undertakes duties?—The Sanitary Inspector.
- How is the refuse disposed of? (a) Destructor?—Nil.
- (b) Tips?—Yes. (c) Farmers?—Yes.
- Is there inadequacy?—No. Where?—Nil.



### Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The total number of inspections made in 1925?—876.

Number of Informal Notices served?—46. Complied with?—41.

Number of Statutory Notices served?—4. Complied with?—2.

Number of legal proceedings taken?—Nil.

**Refuse Disposal.** The methods for scavenging and removal of night soil adopted by your Council are as follows:—

- (1) Annual contracts with local contractors for the removal and disposal of house refuse in all the populous parts of the District.
- (2) Special carts are provided for the removal of the contents of privies at Hendy, which is deposited in isolated places and treated with earth, sand or ashes.
- (3) The undermentioned localities are those in which the Council undertake the removal of house refuse, etc.:—

Llanelly Rural Parish: Sandy, Felinfoel, Furnace, Pentrepoeth, Ponthenry, Pontyates, Dafen, Halfway, Llwynhendy and Yspitty.

Pembrey Parish: Pwll, Pembrey, and Trimsaran.

Llangennech Parish: Llangennech and Allt.

Llanedy: Hendy, Forest and Tycroes.

Llannon Parish: Cross Hands and Tumble.

**Smoke Abatement.**—No action taken.

**Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-Laws or Regulations?**—No action has been taken in this matter.

**Other Sanitary Conditions requiring Notice?**—Nil.

**Schools.**—All the Schools in our District are supplied with an ample supply of water either from Llynfan or the Llanelly Corporation Water Supply.

The sanitary condition of the Schools and their surroundings, which is directly under the control of the Education Authority of the County, has been fairly satisfactory during the year.

No Schools were closed in your area during the year, with the object of preventing the spread of infectious disease.

## HOUSING.

### I. General Housing Conditions in the Area.

- (1) General Housing Conditions.—The number of houses in your District is 6,854, which gives an average number of persons per house of about 5.3.



- (2) **Extent of Shortage or Excess of Houses.**—There is a shortage of houses in all the industrial villages of your area, especially those within easy reach of the Anthracite Collieries.

Measures taken or contemplated to meet any shortage.—  
Private enterprise.

- (3) **Population.**—Notwithstanding the depression in the coal industry in general during the last five years, the Anthracite Collieries in your area have been working fairly regularly, with the result that a large number of miners from the less fortunate areas have found work in the district. A very small percentage of these have managed to acquire houses, the others have either to live in lodgings away from their families or travel daily long distances to and from work in 'buses and trains. The heavy expenses thus incurred, with the low wages prevailing in the industry, leave, after paying for essential needs, very little, if any, for the irreproachable amenities of life. On investigation at the largest Anthracite Colliery in the Gwendraeth Valley, with nearly 1,500 employees, it was discovered that only 62 per cent. were living within a convenient distance of their work.

With the increasing popularity of Anthracite coal in the fuel market, further developments are anticipated in the District, which will aggravate the present shortage of houses.

**II. Overcrowding.**—Generally, the overcrowding is not serious, average number to each house about 5.3. It is most marked in the outskirts of Llanelly Borough, and the villages in the Gwendraeth Valley, where the existing collieries are being extended.

Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding.—Encouraging private enterprise with subsidy.

### III. Fitness of Houses.

1. (a) The general standard of houses in the District is good, especially in the colliery districts towards the north, where most of the workmen have built their own houses, and the districts where your Council has built houses under Scheme A.
- (b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses were: Damp floors and walls, leaky roofs, deficient ventilation and lighting.
- (c) These defects are due partly to the lack of proper management and supervision by owners and partly to waste or neglect by tenants.



2. General action taken as regards unfit houses under—(a) the Public Health Acts; (b) the Housing Acts; during the last five years:—

(i.) Inspection—

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	1812
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 ...	20
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	20
(d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	88

(ii.) Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	265
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(iii.) Action under Statutory Powers—

(a) Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing and Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919, or Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 ...	Nil.
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(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	390
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(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—

(a) By owners ... ..	294
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909, and Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 ... ..	Nil.
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3. Difficulties in remedying unfitness.—No special measures have been taken.

4. Conditions, so far as they affect housing, as regards water supply, closet accommodation, and refuse disposal. (See Report under Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.)



IV. **Unhealthy Areas.**—No action has been taken under these headings.

V. **Bye-Laws relating to Houses,** to houses let in lodgings, and to tents, vans, sheds, etc.—No action has been taken during the year.

VI. **General and Miscellaneous.**—No action taken under these headings.

### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year. (See also Table XVII.) :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	196
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i.) By the Local Authority	Nil.
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	196

#### 1. Unfit dwelling-houses.

Inspection—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	359
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	88

#### 2. Remedy of defects without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	41
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#### 3. Action under Statutory Powers—

(a) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925	—
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#### (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	46
--	----



(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By owners	41
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925	—

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—A steady improvement in the milk supply is being maintained. A number of new cowhouses have been built. The old cowsheds are better drained, paved and ventilated, and the general improvement in the cleanliness of the milk, cow, utensils, etc., is very marked. There is an increasing number of distributors, in the industrial areas, delivering milk in sealed bottles, which is a great improvement on the old method, as far as cleanliness is concerned, of pouring milk from one open utensil to another.

Administration of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders—

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| (i) Action taken as to tuberculous milk and tuberculous cattle   | Nil. |
| (ii.) Numbers of licences granted for the sale of milk under special designations, classified as in the Fourth Schedule to the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923; types of apparatus licensed for the pasteurisation of milk | Nil. |
| (iii.) Refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk, with reasons for the refusal or revocation   | Nil. |
| (iv.) The summarized results of the bacteriological examination of samples of graded and other milk  | Nil. |

Number of Cowkeepers in the district?—454. Number registered?—90.

Number of Milk-sellers in the district?—188. Number registered?—105.

Total number of Cowsheds?—454. Number of Inspections in 1925?—350.

General conditions?—Much improved.

Any insufficiency in milk supply?—No.

Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders?—Nil.



Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922—

(Fresh Registration—operative from 1st September, 1922.)

Retailers' Register, No. Registered?—87.

Wholesale Traders' and Producers' Register, No. Registered?—42.

(b) **Meat.**

(i.) Notices have been given to occupiers of all the slaughter-houses in the district, of Articles 8 and 9 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (1924).

Systematic inspection has been made of meat exposed for sale in the district, and at the places of slaughtering. No arrangements have been made as to marking under the Regulations.

(ii.) Periodical examination of Stalls, Shops, Stores, and Vehicles has been carried out.

(iii.) There is no public slaughter-house in the district.

Tabular form of the number of private slaughter-houses in use in the area at the dates mentioned.

					In Jan., 1925.	In Dec., 1925.
		In 1920.				
Registered	...	—	...	—	...	—
Licensed	...	—	...	2	...	14
		—		—		—
Total (in use)	...	20	...	33	...	30

(c) **Other Foods.**

Number of seizures of unsound food?—Nil.

Sanitary condition of bakehouses and other premises where foods are manufactured, prepared, stored, or exposed for sale?—Satisfactory.

(d) Number of food poisoning in the area reported?—Nil.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Infectious Diseases Generally.

Table No. I. shows the prevalence of notifiable diseases during the period since 1920.

During the last five years Diphtheria accounted for 49 deaths, Scarlet Fever 8, and Typhoid Fever 10 deaths. It is difficult to find out the source of infection, but these diseases are spread by inefficient drainage and contact with pre-existing cases. There is no doubt of the fact that a large percentage of these lives would have been saved if there was an Infectious Diseases Hospital within reach, where the first cases could have been isolated and treated.



Your late Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Evan Evans) drew serious attention to the delay on the part of the County Authorities to erect an Infectious Diseases Hospital as far back, if not earlier, than 1919, and had been untiring in his efforts up to the date of his death. Notwithstanding this, and the avoidable deaths that have occurred year after year, I understand that the Authorities have not reached further than the discussion stage of the proposed Hospital for the County. I respectfully urge your Council to make strong representations to the County Council on the matter, and, if necessary, to the Ministry of Health also.

For many years an arrangement has been made with the Clinical Research Association, London, for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens. Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied gratuitously to all Medical Practitioners practising in the area. A quantity is always kept in stock by the Medical Officer of Health. (See Report under Chemical Work.)

No use has been made of the Tests known as the Schick and Dick Tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases.

No (a) primary vaccinations, and (b) revaccinations have been performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

The number of deaths from Influenza certified in your District during 1925 was eight. It is impossible to state even approximately the number of cases of this disease that occurred during the year, and no special action was taken. There is complete co-operation between your Council and the School Medical Authorities in your area, and any intimations of a serious outbreak of a disease is promptly investigated.

Facilities are available for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings at the Workhouse Infirmary, Llanelly. Premises are disinfected and fumigated by your Sanitary Officers when necessary.

**Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.—**  
No action taken.

**Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.—**No action taken.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**D. C. EVANS,**

M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)



TABLE No. I.

Table showing the number of Infectious Diseases notified during the last five years.

Disease.	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Diphtheria .....	75	97	99	64	97
Scarlet Fever .....	89	40	80	144	95
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	7	5	7	9	7
Puerperal Fever .....	2	2	4	3	4
Pneumonia .....	6	6	28	22	19
Other Diseases generally notifiable :—					
Erysipelas .....	13	15	16	9	12
Dysentery .....	1				
Encephalitis Lethargica .....		1	1		
Other Diseases notifiable locally .....					
Tuberculosis :—					
Pulmonary { Male .....	33	34	44	38	39
Female .....	24	32	26	22	36
Total .....	57	66	70	60	75
Non-Pulmonary { Male .....	5	13	20	14	8
Female .....	6	9	12	10	7
Total .....	11	22	32	24	15
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....			2	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis .....				2	

TABLE No. I. (a).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria .. .. .	97	..	15
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	95	...	2
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	7	..	1
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	4	..	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	19	..	28
Other Diseases generally notifiable :—			
Erysipelas .. .. .	12	..	...
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	...	..	..
Other Diseases notifiable locally .. .. .	...	..	..
Tuberculosis :—			
Pulmonary { Male .. .. .	39	17	17
Female .. .. .	36	9	23
Total .. .. .	75	26	40
Non-Pulmonary { Male .. .. .	8	4	3
Female .. .. .	7	1	7
Total .. .. .	15	5	10
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	2	..	...



TABLE No. I. (a).—Continued.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases Reported.				Deaths Reported.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
1 .....	1	1	2	1	.....	1	.....	1
5 .....	3	5	1	.....	.....	1	1	1
10 .....	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1
15 .....	5	9	1	2	1	5	1	1
20 .....	8	4	2	1	2	3	.....	.....
25 .....	3	8	.....	.....	4	4	.....	1
35 .....	8	3	1	1	1	3	.....	.....
45 .....	6	3	.....	.....	5	3	.....	.....
55 .....	2	.....	.....	.....	3	2	.....	.....
65 and upwards	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	39	36	8	7	17	23	3	7

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cases.			Vision Un- Impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
	2	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....











**TABLE No. IV.**

**LLANELLY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.**

Vital Statistics of the Whole District during 1925 and previous years.

Year.	Population Estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births—Nett.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Rate.		Rate.		Of Non-Residents register'd in the District	Of Residents not registered in the District	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.			Number	Rate per 1,000 Births.		Number
1918	{ Births 33,773 } { Deaths 30,143 }	829	24.54	453	15.02	14	27	77	92.88	466	15.46
1919	{ Births 33,610 } { Deaths 32,264 }	724	21.54	342	10.60	9	21	55	75.98	354	10.97
1920	{ Births 33,820 } { Deaths 34,970 }	970	25.72	386	11.41	9	31	79	81.44	408	12.06
1921	{ Births 35,450 } { Deaths 35,810 }	897	25.65	390	11.15	5	39	85	94.76	424	12.12
1922	{ Births 36,170 } { Deaths 36,440 }	819	23.77	376	10.60	7	45	71	86.69	414	11.67
1923	{ Births 36,170 } { Deaths 36,440 }	827	23.09	390	10.89	12	29	66	79.79	407	11.36
1924	{ Births 36,170 } { Deaths 36,440 }	853	23.58	417	11.52	10	52	72	84.40	459	12.69
1925	{ Births 36,170 } { Deaths 36,440 }	771	21.15	412	11.30	9	38	70	90.79	441	12.10

Area or District in Acres (land and inland water) .. .. . 51,380

Total Population at all Ages .. 34,235  
Total Families or separate occupiers .. 6,358

} At Census, 1921.



TABLE No. V.

## LLANELLY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year 1925.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.
Measles	—
Small-pox	—
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	—
Diphtheria (including Membraneous Croup)	97
Erysipelas	12
Scarlet Fever	95
Typhus Fever	—
Enteric Fever	7
Relapsing Fever (R)	—
Continued (C)	—
Puerperal Fever	4
Crebro-spinal Meningitis	—
Poliomyelitis	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	75
Other forms of Tuberculosis	15
Pneumonia	19
Dysentery	—
Malaria	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—
Totals	326



TABLE No. VI.

## LLANELLY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

Causes of Death during the Year 1925.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Enteric Fever .....	1	—	1
Measles .....	2	2	4
Scarlet Fever .....	1	1	2
Whooping Cough .....	4	3	7
Diphtheria .....	12	3	15
Influenza .....	3	5	8
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .....	17	23	40
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	3	7	10
Cancer, Malignant Disease .....	25	19	44
Rheumatic Fever .....	3	3	6
Diabetes .....	—	2	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ....	14	9	23
Heart Disease .....	21	26	47
Arterio-Sclerosis .....	7	6	13
Bronchitis .....	7	16	23
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	13	15	28
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	2	3	5
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) .....	4	—	4
Appendicitis and Typhlitis .....	1	2	3
Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	3	6	9
Puerperal Sepsis .....	—	1	1
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition .....	—	4	4
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth .....	19	5	24
Suicide .....	2	2	4
Other Deaths from Violence .....	20	2	22
Other Defined Diseases .....	44	47	91
Causes ill-defined or unknown .....	—	1	1
Totals .....	228	213	441



**TABLE No. VII.**

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LLANELLY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

Infant Mortality.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 Year  
of Age during 1925.

Causes of Death.	No. of Deaths.
Measles .....	1
Whooping Cough .....	5
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .....	3
Convulsions .....	9
Bronchitis .....	4
Pneumonia (all forms) .....	9
Enteritis .....	1
Congenital Malformations .....	4
Premature Birth .....	8
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus .....	12
Erysipelas .....	1
Suffocation .....	3
Other Causes .....	7
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>70</b>



## TABLE No. VIII.

## LLANELLY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

TABLE shewing Population for each Division of the District, as taken at the last three Censuses, and also the Estimated Population for the Year 1925.

	Census Popu- lation 1901	Census Popu- lation 1911	Census Popu- lation 1921	Estima- ted Popu- lation 1925
I. Llanelly Rural Sub-District	8954	11673	13728	14780
Westfa and Hengoed ...	4599	5790	7205	7730
Berwick ... ..	3044	4080	4525	4870
Glyn ... ..	1311	1803	1998	2180
II. Llannon, etc., District ...	7746	11207	11935	12640
Llannon ... ..	2633	4687	4844	5130
Llanedi ... ..	2889	3901	4270	4530
Llangennech ... ..	2224	2619	2821	2980
III. Pontyberem ... ..	...	...	3026	3210
IV. Pembrey Sub-District ...	3626	4549	5546	5810
The Whole District ... ..	20326	27429	34235	36440

N.B.—In the above Table the addition to the Llanelly Rural is taken into account only in the Census 1921.

**TABLE No. IX.**  
**LLANELLY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.**

Table showing, for every Division and Sub-Division, their Death Rate for the last five years, and also for the decades 1881-90, 1891-1900, 1901-10, 1911-20.

	1881-90	1891-1900	1901-10	1911-20	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
The Whole District ..	15'53	17'06	15'36	12'92	12'12	11'67	11'36	12'69	12'10
No. I., Llanelly Rural Sub-district	14'10	17'32	15'51	13'13	13'80	12'06	11'77	12'51	11'09
Westfa and Hengoed ..	14'16	16'51	14'81	13'57	14'12	12'11	12'22	12'46	12'50
Berwick ..	14'52	16'36	14'18	11'65	10'63	10'57	12'73	10'53	10'64
Glyn ..	13'63	19'11	17'55	15'42	19'50	15'23	7'53	12'50	10'18
No. II., Llannon, &c. Sub-district	16'77	17'75	15'17	12'17	10'50	11'43	10'13	12'98	10'20
Llannon ..	17'34	22'36	19'85	12'59	10'79	14'97	12'67	15'71	11'81
Llanedi ..	15'71	15'67	13'70	10'60	11'00	9'97	8'31	10'88	7'50
Llangennech ..	17'27	15'22	12'53	12'47	9'25	7'55	8'50	11'48	11'40
Pontyberem ..	..	..	..	..	..	12'51	11'46	12'89	13'39
No. III., Pembrey Sub-district ..	16'85	19'85	15'45	12'80	11'83	10'77	12'98	14'03	11'70



TABLE No. X.

## CAUSES OF DEATH FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Scarlet Fever ...	2	...	2	2	1	2	...	2	2	2
Diphtheria, including Mem- braneous Croup ...	5	3	3	5	5	10	7	10	7	15
Typhoid Fever ...	...	10	2	...	...	2	2	2	3	1
Puerperal Fever ...	2	2	1	1	1	3	...	1	1	1
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Measles ...	4	3	...	...	13	1	1	4	...	4
Whooping Cough ...	1	3	4	5	2	1	6	2	3	7
Diarrhoea and Dysentery ...	8	10	8	4	11	6	4	6	3	4
Rheumatic Fever ...	4	3	3	2	3	4	3	4	6	6
Phthisis ...	32	28	40	32	28	44	30	31	35	40
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	68	68	69	57	56	65	65	44	81	51
Heart Disease ...	30	45	40	25	34	38	41	57	68	47
Injuries ...	23	23	19	21	21	12	22	31	21	22
All other Diseases ...	229	190	275	200	232	236	233	213	229	240
Total ...	409	388	466	354	408	424	414	407	459	441

TABLE No. XI.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF THE AGE AT WHICH  
DEATH OCCURRED.

	At all ages	Under 1 year.	1 year and under 5 years.	5 years and under 15 years.	15 years and under 25 years.	25 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
1916	409	87	32	20	25	140	105
1917	388	83	26	23	25	129	102
1918	466	77	41	22	40	182	104
1919	354	55	28	15	25	136	95
1920	408	79	30	25	24	151	99
1921	424	85	26	18	37	148	110
1922	414	71	25	17	28	157	116
1923	407	66	22	21	29	160	109
1924	459	72	29	14	34	174	136
1925	441	70	33	23	24	150	141

**TABLE No. XII.**  
**RAINFALL AS MEASURED AT CWMILLIEDI WATERWORKS, LLANELLY.**

MONTH.	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
January ...	4'76	2'25	7'01	7'77	6'05	6'39	5'29	3'48	6'11	3'93
February ...	5'43	2'93	3'91	4'24	2'36	0'38	3'68	9'09	'57	8'43
March ...	2'69	3'09	2'25	6'60	5'71	4'35	3'13	2'53	3'00	1'24
April ...	2'64	2'81	3'51	2'30	7'76	1'51	4'44	3'62	3'64	4'19
May ...	4'09	2'94	2'23	1'77	5'18	2'51	2'32	3'62	3'83	6'46
June ...	4'05	4'43	1'99	2'96	4'24	0'10	1'42	1'20	4'25	0'07
July ...	2'33	5'12	4'93	1'53	9'11	3'04	6'91	3'15	5'81	2'79
August ...	3'39	11'39	3'47	3'52	3'39	6'16	5'49	7'17	5'96	6'30
September ...	3'79	4'08	10'06	3'01	6'82	2'87	5'01	5'45	5'30	4'43
October ...	12'45	7'20	5'74	2'79	7'52	3'03	2'09	8'13	6'84	6'46
November ...	5'71	4'67	5'06	3'30	3'94	3'73	2'89	5'66	3'88	4'17
December ...	3'46	1'85	9'93	7'40	5'46	4'60	6'19	6'28	8'64	4'55
Total ...	54'79	52'76	60'09	47'19	67'54	38'67	48'86	59'38	57'83	53'02



TABLE No. XII. (a).

Rainfall as measured at Llynfan Reservoir, Llanddeusant.

Month.	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
January	14.73	7.87	6.71	9.73	10.00
February	.35	10.55	15.35	1.13	17.40
March	13.33	7.37	2.90	4.13	2.30
April	1.19	4.91	5.67	7.40	6.20
May	3.60	2.03	4.06	6.92	11.32
June	.23	3.32	2.14	5.93	Nil
July	5.88	9.40	5.33	9.03	4.68
August	4.00	6.58	7.74	11.60	9.20
September	2.64	5.06	7.14	12.47	6.30
October	3.52	4.22	14.61	11.42	15.34
November	4.62	4.07	8.25	5.11	5.60
December	6.08	13.57	9.07	19.00	9.25
Total	60.17	78.95	88.97	103.87	97.63

TABLE XIII.

## Eastern Division of the Llanelly Rural District Council.

Tabulated List of all the Houses for the Year ending  
31st December, 1925.

DISTRICTS.				No. of Houses	No. of Slaugh- ter Houses	No. of Wells
<b>Llanelly Parish—</b>						
Dafen, Ynyswen, and Penceilogi	..		..	378	4	..
Cwmfelin, Genwen, and Spitty	..		..	369	1	..
Llwynhendy	..	..	..	263	2	..
Penallt, Halfway, and Pemberton	..		..	537	..	..
Farms and Cottages	..	..	..	281	..	..
Total				1828	7	..
<b>Llangennech Parish—</b>						
Llangennech Village	..	..	..	516	3	..
Allt	..	..	..	46	..	..
Bryn	..	..	..	24	..	..
Farms and Cottages	..	..	..	66	..	..
Converted Railway Carriages	..		..	28	..	..
Total				680	3	..
<b>Llanedy Parish—</b>						
Hendy and Forest	..	..	..	494	1	..
Tycroes	..	..	..	286	1	1
Farms and Cottages	..	..	..	130	..	..
Total				910	2	1
<b>Llannon Parish—</b>						
Cross Hands and Main Road to						
Tumble	..	..	..	367	1	..
Farms and Cottages	..	..	..	128	2	1
Total				495	3	1
Grand Total				3913	15	2

E. MORGAN, Sanitary Inspector.



**TABLE XIV.**

**Western Division of the Llanelly Rural District Council.**

**Tabulated List of all the Houses for the Year ending  
31st December, 1925.**

DISTRICTS.	No. of Houses.	No. of Slaugh- ter Houses	No. of Wells
<b>Llanelly Parish—</b>			
Felinfoel .. ..	317	..	..
Pentrepoeth and Furnace .. ..	178	..	..
Sandy Road .. ..	144	..	..
Horeb and Five Roads .. ..	47	2	1
Ponthenry .. ..	140	2	..
Pontyeates .. ..	99	3	..
Farms .. ..	108	..	..
Cottages .. ..	40	..	..
Total .. ..	1073	7	1
<b>Llannon Parish—</b>			
Llannon Village .. ..	13	..	1
Tumble and Cwmmawr .. ..	360	1	..
Farms .. ..	43	..	..
Cottages .. ..	29	..	..
Total .. ..	445	1	1
<b>Pembrey Parish—</b>			
Pembrey Village .. ..	249	1	...
Pwll Village .. ..	248	..	..
Trimsaran .. ..	246	..	1
Farms .. ..	80	..	..
Cottages .. ..	31	..	..
Total .. ..	854	1	1
<b>Pontyberem Parish</b>			
Farms .. ..	559	6	..
.. ..	38	..	..
Total .. ..	597	6	..
Grand Total .. ..	2969	15	3

DAVID REES, Sanitary Inspector.

**TABLE No. XV.**

On the Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

**1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.**

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Prosecutions.
Factories .....	84	4	Nil.

**2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Work-places.**

Particulars.	No. of Defects Found.	No. of Defects Remedied.
Want of Cleanliness .....	Nil	Nil
Want of Sanitary Convenience .....	9	9

**3.—Home Work.**

Nil.

**4.—Registered Workshops.**

Bakeries .....	15
Tailors' Workshops .....	11
Shoe-makers' Workshops .....	23
Milliners, etc. ....	27
Total .....	76

**1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Work-places, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.**

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Prosecutions.
Workplaces .....	84	4	Nil

**2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Work-places.**

Particulars.	No. of Defects Found.	No. of Defects Remedied.
Sanitary Accommodation—Insufficient .....	9	9
Breach of Special Sanitary requirements for Bake-houses .....	Nil	Nil

**3.—Home Work.**

Nil.

**4.—Registered Workshops.**

Workshops on Register at the end of the year .....	Number. 53
--	---------------

**5.—Other Matters.**

D. C. EVANS,  
Medical Officer of Health.



**TABLE No. XVI.**  
**LLANELLY RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.**

Table showing the Amount of Poor Law Relief paid out in the District, Sub-District and Parishes, also the Amount per head of their respective population.

	Total Amount.			Amount per head of Population.	
	£	s.	d.	s.	d.
I.—Llanelly Rural Sub-District	7445	12	1	10	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
II.—Llannon, etc., Sub-District	4679	6	3	7	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Llannon Parish	2451	0	0	9	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Llanedi Parish	1511	1	11	6	8
Llangennech Parish	717	4	4	4	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
III.—Pontyberem	1478	1	0	9	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
IV.—Pembrey Sub-District	2954	15	10	10	2
The Whole District	16557	15	2	9	1

**TABLE No. XVII.**  
**LLANELLY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

Surveyor's Department,  
Castle Buildings, Llanelly,  
8th April, 1926.

Plans approved of for the year 1925 are as follows:—

	New Houses.	Other Buildings.
Llanelly	111	15
Llannon	24	13
Pontyberem	6	5
Pembrey	19	4
Llangennech	14	—
Llanedy	13	2
	187	39

Houses completed and certificates of completion granted for the above period are as follows:—

	New Houses.	Other Buildings.
Llanelly	137	13
Pembrey	12	2
Llannon	12	9
Pontyberem	16	6
Llangennech	5	—
Llanedy	14	2
	196	32

JOHN JENKINS, Surveyor.





