

**Report upon maternity and child welfare for the year 1930 /
Monmouthshire County Council.**

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MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

**Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915,
and Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918.**



REPORT

UPON

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

For the Year 1930.

D. ROCYN JONES,


County Medical Officer.

May 7th, 1931.

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

COUNTY HALL,

NEWPORT,

7th May, 1931.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Sixteenth Annual Report upon the work done in connection with the Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915, and the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918.

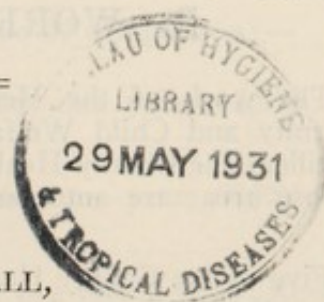
A.—SUMMARY OF BIRTHS NOTIFIED

During the twelve months ended 31st December, 1930, there were notified to this Department, 6,663 births, as follows:—

	LIVING	STILLBIRTHS	TOTAL
No. officially notified by persons in attendance	6233	331	6564
No. not directly notified to the County Medical Officer, but information received from other sources, viz.,			
District Registrars	83	—	83
Health Visitors	16	—	16
	6332	331	6663

Of the 6,564 notifications to this Department, midwives were responsible for 6523, registered medical practitioners for 40 notifications and parent for 1 notification. The percentage of births notified by midwives is 99, which is a high figure compared with the percentage for England and Wales.

The number of live births registered with the District Registrars during the year was 6,342 of which 98.28 per cent. were notified in compliance with the Notification of Births Acts. Of the remainder, 99 births were subsequently discovered, 83 through the District Registrars, and 16 through the Health Visitors, leaving only .16 per cent. of the registered births unaccounted for. **This is the best proportion of notifications ever obtained in the County.**



B.—WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

The work of the Health Visitors in respect of School Medical Inspection and Maternity and Child Welfare is co-ordinated in most of the districts. At Ebbw Vale and Abertillery the County Health Visitors undertake Maternity and Child Welfare work only, as those areas are autonomous under the Education Act, 1902.

Five of the County Health Visitors are engaged in School Medical Inspection work only, as they have not been approved by the Ministry of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare work. The Ministry now require for all new appointments that nurses appointed as Health Visitors shall hold the Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

There were at the end of the year 31 Health Visitors on the staff, and in addition the Lecturer in Nursing under the Higher Education Committee devotes part of her time to Maternity and Child Welfare work. One of the School Nurses is temporarily transferred to act as Matron of the County Small Pox Hospital.

The Board of Education has notified the County Education Committee that the number of school inspections and visits to homes by Health Visitors is not up to schedule, and the Committee has appointed five additional Health Visitors, so that the school work shall be kept up to standard. These nurses will have commenced duties by the end of June, 1931.

The Maternity and Child Welfare duties of the Health Visitors include attendance at Welfare Centres and Ante-natal Clinics and the home visitation of infants up to the age of five years.

All infants are visited soon after the tenth day, and during the first year of life at intervals of three months, excepting those who at the first visit are found to be in homes where they are well cared for. The visit at nine months is important because of the advice with regard to weaning of breast-fed babies. The visit when the child attains the age of twelve months is also important, so that the general condition and development of the infant may be noted. In cases where there is reason to believe home conditions are not entirely satisfactory, or when the child has some defect, visits are paid more frequently.

After the first year, visits are paid twice yearly in the majority of cases, until the child attains the age of five, unless special conditions call for more frequent home visiting.

Figures relating to the work of the Health Visitors are given in the following pages, but the true value of their utility cannot be shown by statistics. The conscientious interest taken by them in the individual mothers and children in their areas tends to brighten many homes, and they exert a real and lasting effect upon a large proportion of the mothers and children whom they visit. Much can be, and is, done by the Medical Officers at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, but the Health Visitors are able to get in touch with many mothers who do not attend the Centres. The teaching of infant hygiene to mothers is one of the greatest benefits given by infant welfare.

1.—VISITS PAID.—During the year 46,145 visits were paid to the homes as follows :

New Cases		Re-visits under 1 year of age	Re-visits 1 to 5 years	Total Visits.
Babies seen	Fruitless Visits			
6,731	1,133	15,372	22,909	46,145

The figures for the previous years are given for the purpose of comparison:—

- 1929.—First visits, 6,762; Fruitless Visits, 1,122; Re-visits under one year, 15,930; Re-visits 1-5 years, 23,364; Total, 47,178.
- 1928.—First visits, 6,481; Fruitless visits, 1,047; Re-visits under one year, 10,881; Re-visits 1-5 years, 18,066; Total, 36,475.
- 1927.—First visits, 6,031; Fruitless visits, 775; Re-visits under one year, 14,246; Re-visits 1-5 years, 21,496; Total, 42,548.
- 1926.—First visits, 7,467; Fruitless visits, 416; Re-visits under one year, 22,366; Re-visits 1-5 years, 27,751; Total, 58,000.
- 1925.—First visits, 7,872; Fruitless visits, 590; Re-visits under one year, 22,541; Re-visits 1-5 years, 30,641; Total, 61,644.
- 1924.—First visits, 8,577; Re-visits under one year, 24,319; Re-visits 1-5 years, 31,261; Total, 64,157.
- 1923.—First visits, 9,896; Re-visits under one year, 24,529; Re-visits 1-5 years, 33,038; Total, 67,463.
- 1922.—First visits, 9,100; Re-visits under one year, 25,350; Re-visits 1-5 years, 25,804; Total, 60,254.
- 1921.—First visits, 10,591; Re-visits under one year, 33,024; Re-visits 1-5 years, 21,843; Total, 65,458.
- 1920.—First visits, 11,255; Re-visits, 45,478; Total, 56,733.

II.—METHODS OF FEEDING.—Of the new cases visited it was found that 5,538 children were being brought up entirely on the breast (82.27 per cent.), whilst 909 were being bottle fed (13.5 per cent.), and 223 were both breast and bottle fed (3.31 per cent.). It was discovered on subsequent visits that in 408 instances (6.06 per cent.) children breast-fed had been put on the bottle after the first visit of the Health Visitor, and before the usual time of weaning. The above percentages are of the total new cases seen. In 61 cases the child only survived birth by a few hours (.9 per cent.).

The figures for the previous years in respect of all cases visited are:—

	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Breast-fed	81.7	82.5	84.7	86.2	86.2	82.3	81.8	79.6	78.7
Bottle fed	13.5	12.8	10.26	9.8	9.6	10.1	10.0	11.5	11.8
Both breast and bottle fed	3.9	3.6	3.9	3.03	3.1	2.5	2.6	3.25	3.7
Changed from breast to bottle feeding within the first nine months	7.4	6.3	6.8	7.3	10.2	9.1	7.6	12.0	13.0

The percentage of breast-fed babies in this table is much higher than that given by the Medical Officers in the section of this report dealing with the work of the Centres, and it must be pointed out that the Health Visitors' figures deal with the feeding at the time of their first visits, *i.e.*, about 10 days after birth. Many mothers take their babies to the Centre for the first time owing to their inability to continue breast-feeding.

The Health Visitors' figures show there is an increase of .57 per cent. in the number of babies breast-fed, as compared with the previous year (1929).

It is hardly necessary to emphasise that infant feeding, particularly in the early months of life, should be breast-feeding. If this is encouraged from the start it will generally continue satisfactorily and without difficulty. Breast-feeding is of great importance to the healthy baby, and even more so for unhealthy infants, and in the latter cases real efforts should be made to obtain supplies of breast milk. This is the direction in which encouragement and teaching can be given at the infant centres, and usually with success. It ought to be taken for granted at the commencement of a woman's married life that breast-feeding is the only method for the baby, but there is much prejudice to be overcome.

When the infants get older considerable difficulty is experienced in educating mothers to feed them in a commonsense manner. Money is often wasted on patent biscuits, when crusts with butter or dripping would be more beneficial. Soups made from bones and vegetables are ignored in favour of sausages or similar commodities. The Health Visitors spend considerable time in endeavouring to convince mothers of the nutritional value of certain foods, but their work is uphill all the way.

III.—INTERVIEWS WITH DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.—

In accordance with the arrangements made at the initiation of the scheme, visits were paid by the Health Visitors to the Local Medical Officers for consultation purposes, and reports were made to the District Medical Officers of Health upon Sanitary defects at the home.

Although in some districts considerable progress has been made with the provision of houses for the working classes, it cannot be said that the supply has in any way met the demand, and there is still overcrowding throughout the County. As stated in previous reports, many houses which have been condemned as unfit for habitation have to remain in occupation for want of alternative accommodation. Bad housing is an important factor in the causation of ill health and disease.

IV.—ANTE-NATAL.—The number of visits paid to expectant mothers was 331 to new cases, and 341 re-visits, a total of 672 visits. The number of these visits is increasing yearly and will continue to increase as the facilities for Ante-natal care which have been provided in the County become more widely known.

V.—PUERPERAL FEVER.—During the year 1930, notification of 13 cases of puerperal fever were received under the Public Health (Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, from the District Medical Officers of Health. The 13 notifications were received from the following urban districts—Abersychan, 2; Abertillery, 2; Bedwas and Machen, 1; Monmouth, 1; Pontypool, 1; Rhymney, 3; and from the following rural districts—Chepstow, 1; Magor, 1; and Monmouth, 1.

Fourteen deaths were registered.

The attack rate per 1,000 births in 1930 was 1.9. The attack rate per 1,000 of population equalled .036 and the death rate per 1,000 of population was .0389. The death rate per 1,000 births was 2.08.

The following comparative table is submitted:—

Year	No. of Notifications to Local M.O.H.	No. of Notifications received at Central Office.	No. of Deaths Registered	Death rate per 1,000 of population for County
1930	13	13	14	.038
1929	12	12	21	.058
1928	14	14	15	.04
1927	10	10	8	.02
1926	19	19	7	.019
1925	22	22	8	.021
1924	15	15	10	.027
1923	19	21	9	.02
1922	11	11	14	.03
1921	17	18	13	.03
1920	24	30	20	.05
1919	19	13	11	.029
1918	6	6	3	.009
1917	4	4	0	Nil.
1916	13	14	8	.025
1915	22	22	6	.018
1914	26	15	12	.035
1913	13	14	6	.018

The thirteen cases of puerperal fever investigated by the County Midwives' Inspectress showed that all cases were attended by registered midwives.

Details of the cases are as follows—Number of women attended at confinement by midwife alone, 6; by medical practitioner and midwife, 7. In four cases attended by the midwife, the medical attendant was called in on the day of delivery, and in two cases the doctor was summoned on the sixth day.

Every precaution possible is taken to prevent the spread of infection. A visit of inspection is made immediately on receipt of the notification, and the midwife is prohibited from attending other cases until she has left the infected case and has allowed 24 hours to elapse for thorough disinfection of herself, her instruments and her clothing.

Death resulted in four of the cases which were notified under the Regulations and followed up by the County Staff.

On the 1st October, 1926, puerperal pyrexia became a notifiable disease in addition to puerperal fever. Puerperal pyrexia is defined as any febrile condition (apart from puerperal fever) occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth in which a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahr. or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours.

Twenty-one cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified in 1930 and all were followed up by the Inspectress of Midwives. Nineteen cases cleared up satisfactorily, and two subsequently proved to be puerperal fever.

A scheme for the provision of facilities for diagnosis and treatment of cases is in operation. Under the scheme the services of Dr. G. I. Strachan, M.D., F.R.C.S., of Cardiff, have been retained as consultant obstetrician, and his services have been requisitioned frequently by the medical practitioner in attendance upon the case. Cases requiring hospital treatment are sent to the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, and any necessary bacteriological examination is made by Dr. H. W. Catto, County Bacteriologist, at the County Laboratory, Newport.

VI.—INFANTILE DIARRHŒA.—Four cases of this disease were discovered during visits to homes, and eleven re-visits paid, as against 8 and 4 re-visits in the year 1929.

Thirty-six deaths were registered from this disease in children under two years of age, giving a death rate of 5.67 per 1,000 births, as compared with 5.6 for the year 1929.

All cases of which the Health Visitor has knowledge are visited, but it is obvious that very many cases do not come to her notice. **The disease is not notifiable.**

During the years preceding the introduction of the County Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme, the death rate averaged 11 per 1,000 births. The average rate for the past thirteen years, which includes one very hot summer, when the rate was 17.2, has been 7 per 1,000 births. *It will be observed that the rate for 1930 is considerably below that average.*

The infective type of the disease is essentially one of the summer months and it varies in intensity according to the type of summer, many more cases occurring in really warm weather. During these months, the mothers attending the County Maternity and Child Welfare Centres are warned of the measures necessary to prevent the disease, and printed instructions to mothers in regard to these diseases are distributed by the Health Visitors at homes when cases are discovered.

VII.—OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—Thirty-four cases were notified under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, as compared with twenty-seven cases in the year 1929, and thirty in 1928. These cases, together with other cases of eye trouble reported by the Midwives, making a total of 116 cases, were followed up by the Health Visitors, who paid 316 visits to them. In 1 case there was unsatisfactory conduct on the part of the Midwife, and a warning letter was sent by the County Medical Officer.

Since the beginning of January, 1921, the Midwives practising within the Administrative County have been supplied with bottles of Collosol Argentum, with which they are instructed to treat the eyes of all children at birth. The supply is renewed upon application to the County Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. It has been proved that this treatment prevents a large number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and statistics show that it is now having a good effect, for rarely has it been found of recent years that blindness has followed upon Ophthalmia Neonatorum in infants.

Of the cases which were investigated during the year 1930, blindness resulted in one child, and there appeared to be some impairment of vision in two others. It is assumed

that about 30 per cent. of all cases which are to be found in the Blind Institutions of England, owe their affliction to Ophthalmia Neonatorum. The County Health Visitors are assiduous in their following up of affected cases. Medical treatment is immediately urged for the slightest case, and frequent visits are paid to see that the mothers are properly attending to the eyes of the infants.

The Health Visitors have reported upon 116 cases as follows:—

NUMBER OF CASES VISITED.

				Acute	Slight	Total.
Brought forward from last year	...	...	...	1	9	10
New cases—						
Both eyes	...	...	...	21	49	70
One eye only	...	...	...	2	34	36
				—	—	—
				24	92	116
				—	—	—
Number of cases which attended hospital						
As out-patients	...	...	...	2	1	3
As in-patients	...	...	...	9	—	9
Number of cases in which there was neglect on the part of the midwife			...	—	1	1

RESULTS:

Completely cured	...	...	...	...	19	87	106
Blindness	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Corneal Ulcers	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
To see Eye Specialist	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Cases still being followed up at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	—	5	5
					24	92	116
					—	—	—

Ten of the cases were referred to the Venereal Diseases Clinic.

VIII.—STILLBIRTHS.—331 cases were notified to your Medical Officer, and this number, in addition to the 61 infants who were found by the Health Visitors to have survived birth by a few hours, makes a total of 392 young lives lost.

The number of stillbirths notified to the District Registrars was 380, which works out at 5.99 per 100 live births, an increase of .95 over the figure for 1929, which was 5.04. This is a high figure, particularly when compared with the English Counties, where the stillbirth rates are generally under 4.0 per 100 live births.

It may be explained in some measure by the fact that as the birth rate decreases the proportion of 1st births increases, and 1st births are usually fraught with more danger to the child than are subsequent births. Therefore, although the total number for the year of stillbirths may be fewer, the percentage rate is higher.

IX.—UNREGISTERED WOMEN ACTING AS MIDWIVES.—The number of confinements attended by unregistered women without a doctor was 1, as compared with 3 in 1929 and 8 in 1928.

The 1 case was taken by a woman who had been prosecuted and fined for her irregular practice a few years ago. She attended the confinement in an emergency.

C.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The area of the Administrative County in acres is 345,048. Other related statistics are given in the accompanying table.

The District Medical Officers' figures of the ages at death of children under one year of age, show that during the year 143 infants died within one week of birth, and 206 died within the first month of birth, whilst 404 died within the first twelve months. which, together with the figure of 380 stillbirths make a total of 784 lives lost to the community.

The infantile mortality rate per 1,000 births is 64.9, *which is the lowest ever recorded for the County*, the previous lowest being 66.1 in 1926. Last year it was 67.7; in 1928, 72.29; in 1927, 87.3; in 1926, 66.1; in 1925, 83.8; in 1924, 75.6; and in 1923, 73.0.

There were 6,342 births registered during the year, a decrease of 77 when compared with the number for 1929, and the birth rate is 17.6 per 1,000 of population, compared with 17.8 in 1929. In the year 1928 it was 18.3; in 1927, 17.5; in 1926, 20.3; in 1925, 21.5; in 1924, 22.3; in 1923, 23.5; in 1922, 23.8; in 1921, 28.3; in 1920, 29.2; and in 1919, 22.9.

The number of births of illegitimate children was 218, which gives a ratio to that of legitimate births as 35.55 to 964.55. Last year the number was 230, equal to 37.16 per 1,000 legitimate births, and for the year 1928 the figure was 38.64.

The number of deaths of illegitimate children under one year of age was 19, or 2.9 per 1,000 of all births, and 87.1 per 1,000 of illegitimate births. Last year the number of deaths was 29, or 4.5 per 1,000 of all births, and 126.08 per 1,000 of illegitimate births.

C.—VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1930

DISTRICT	Esti- mated Popula- tion	BIRTHS								DEATHS				INFANTILE MORTALITY.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Total		Grand Total	Rate per 1000 of popula- tion	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1000 of popula- tion	Total Deaths under One Year			Ages at Death of Children under One Year.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female							Legiti- mate	Illegiti- mate	Total	Rate per 1000 births	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total under 1 year																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
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N.B.—The figures in the columns marked with an asterisk were supplied by the Registrar-General, and the remainder by the District Medical Officers.

The District Infantile Mortality Rates, arranged in order of highest rate, are as follows:—

Districts.	Present Year	(1929)	Districts.	Present Year	(1929)
URBAN—			URBAN—		
Mynyddislwyn ...	97.1	(76.4)	Nantyglo and Blaina..	56.7	(77.7)
Usk ...	95.2	(142.89)	Abertillery ...	56.6	(67.2)
Panteg ...	86.0	(61.1)	Abergavenny ...	43.1	(65.0)
Ebbw Vale ...	80.4	(67.2)	Llanfrechfa Upper...	40.0	(28.1)
Bedwellty ...	78.5	(74.6)	Monmouth ...	37.5	(87.9)
Pontypool ...	73.3	(54.79)	Risca ...	36.7	(59.9)
Abercarn ...	68.9	(70.9)			
Abersychan ...	68.8	(75.89)	RURAL—		
Bedwas and Machen..	67.7	(80.4)	Abergavenny ...	61.4	(79.3)
Blaenavon ...	67.0	(57.29)	Pontypool ...	50.8	(68.5)
Rhymney ...	66.3	(63.4)	Magor ...	48.0	(70.1)
Tredeggar ...	64.0	(60.0)	Chepstow ...	44.7	(68.3)
Caerleon ...	62.5	—	St. Mellons ...	42.7	(39.8)
Llantarnam ...	60.8	(93.3)	Monmouth ...	23.5	(88.2)
Chepstow ...	59.7	(38.4)			

The Vital Statistics for England and Wales for the year 1930, compiled by the Registrar-General, are as in the subjoined table. The Monmouthshire figures are given for the purpose of comparison.

	Birth Rate per 1,000 of population				Death Rate per 1,000 living		Deaths under one year per 1,000 births	
	Live Births	Still Births	Live Births	Still Births				
	1930	1930	1929	1929	1930	(1929)	1930	(1929)
ENGLAND & WALES ...	16.3	0.69	(16.3)	(.68)	11.4	(13.4)	60.0	(74.0)
107 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	16.6	0.71	(16.6)	(.69)	11.5	(13.7)	64.0	(79.0)
159 Smaller Towns (1921 adjusted populations, 20,000—50,000) ...	16.2	0.69	(16.0)	(.71)	10.5	(12.3)	55.0	(69.0)
London ...	15.7	0.56	(15.7)	(.53)	11.4	(13.8)	59.0	(70.0)
MONMOUTHSHIRE ...	17.6	1.05	(17.8)	(.99)	10.2	(11.3)	64.9	(67.7)

In all cases the estimated populations as supplied by the Registrar-General have been used for the purposes of this table.

D.—DEDUCTIONS FROM THE COUNTY VITAL STATISTICS.

The County Birth Rate shows a slight decrease on last year's figure, which was 17.8 per 1,000 of the population. There were 77 fewer births.

The County Death Rate of 10.2 per 1,000 of population is below the rate for 1929 (11.3), and it is still below that for England and Wales (11.4).

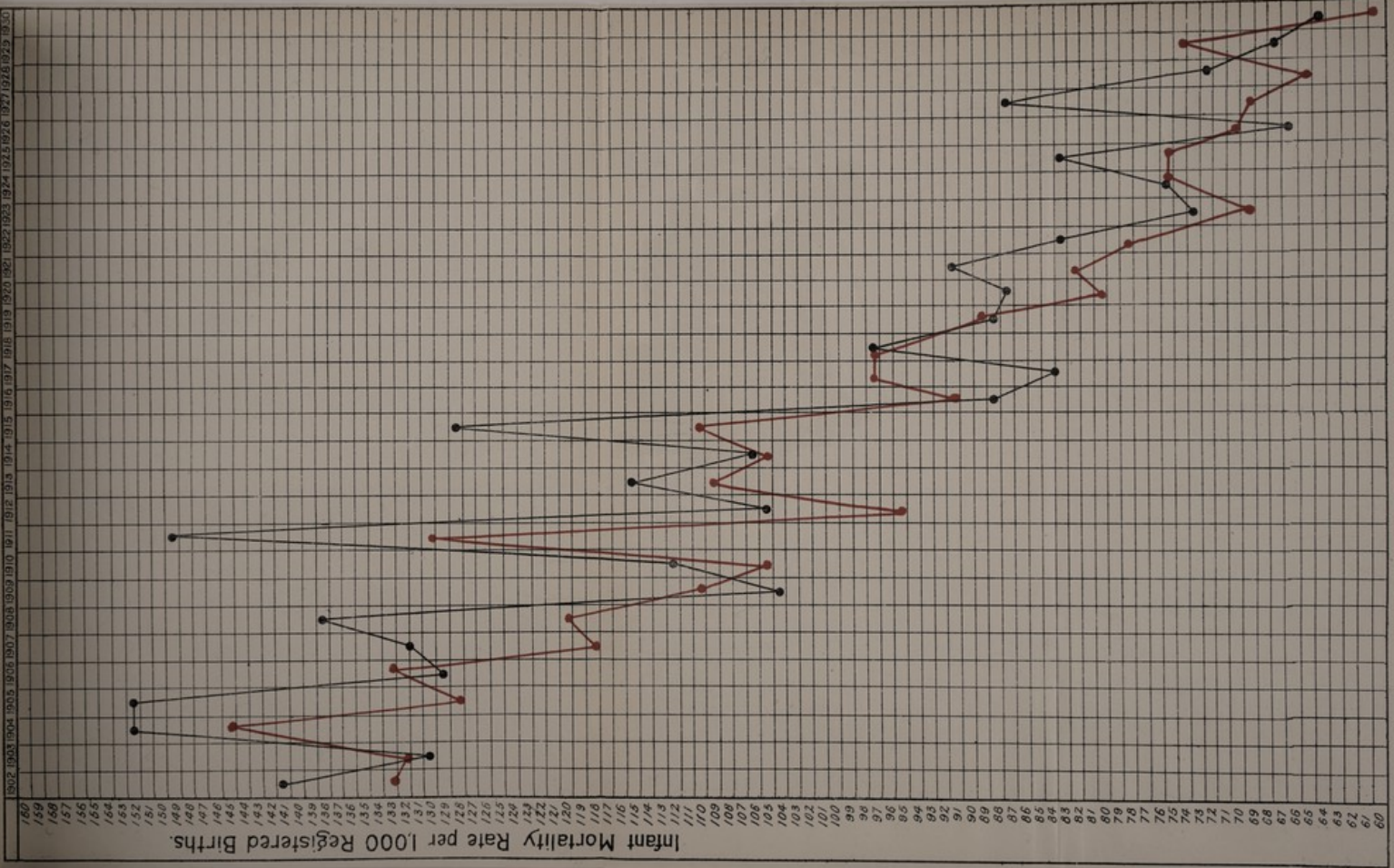
The County Infantile Mortality Rate for the year (64.9) shows a decrease on the rate for the previous year, when it was 67.7. It is the lowest on record for the County, the previous lowest being 66.1 for the year 1926.

CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

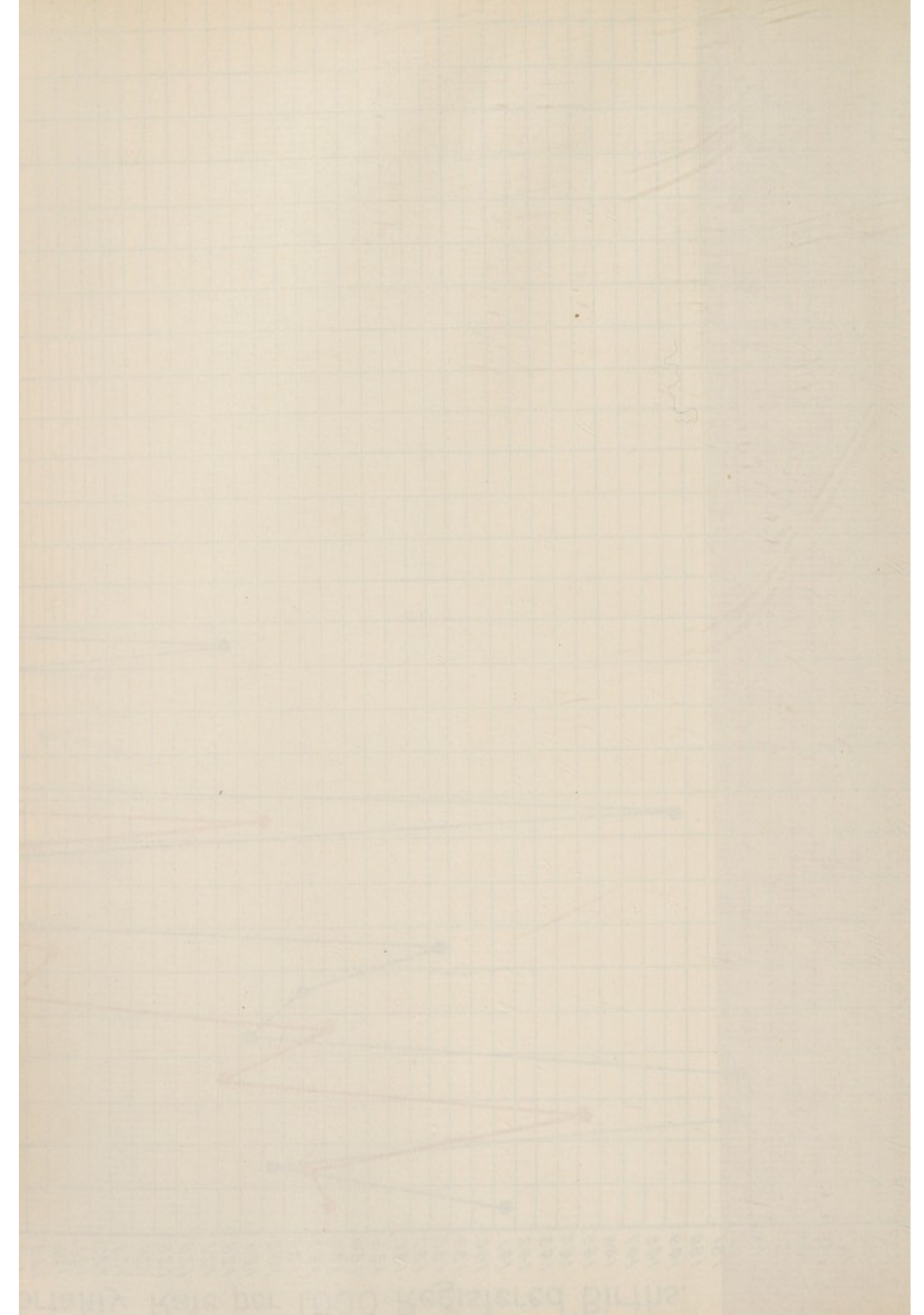
CAUSES.	1930	(1929)	(1928)	(1927)
All causes	412	(435)	(478)	(570)
Small Pox	—	(1)	—	(2)
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
Measles	1	(4)	(8)	(7)
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	15	(28)	(17)	(18)
Influenza	2	(5)	(2)	(8)
Meningococcal meningitis	—	(3)	(1)	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	(1)	(1)	(2)
Other Tubercular Diseases	2	(1)	(4)	(4)
Bronchitis	24	(33)	(28)	(47)
Pneumonia (all forms)... ..	51	(62)	(85)	(105)
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	(4)	(3)	—
Diarrhoea	34	(29)	(28)	(39)
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	—	—	—
Congenital Debility	204	(191)	(217)	(252)
Violence	5	(6)	(8)	(5)
Other Defined Diseases... ..	71	(67)	(75)	(81)
Causes ill-defined or unknown...	—	—	(1)	—

The large proportion of deaths during the first month of life is still very noticeable. Death at this period of life is due often to ill-health of the mother during pregnancy, and to difficulties during confinement. It is to be anticipated that when the benefits of the Ante-natal Clinics are more widely known to expectant mothers there will be a reduction in the number of deaths at this period.

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Registered Births.



The Black Line indicates the County Infantile Mortality Rate.
The Red Line indicates the Infantile Mortality Rate of England and Wales.



E.—MATERNAL MORTALITY AND ANTE-NATAL CARE.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.—The number of deaths registered during the year from accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition was 34, 14 from Puerperal Fever and 20 from other causes associated with childbirth. This is equal to a rate of 5.36 per 1,000 live births. Although this rate is lower than that of last year, when it was 7.47, and also lower than it has been in the County for several years, it is still considerably higher than the figure for England and Wales, which in 1929 was 4.3 per 1,000 women giving birth to live children.

The Departmental Committee appointed to enquire into Maternal Mortality and Morbidity has recently issued an Interim Report. The investigation is to be continued. The present report deals with the result of the consideration of upwards of 2,000 maternal deaths, and contains recommendations for the prevention of the "deplorably high rate of death attributed to child-birth."

It is noted that the total mortality among women during pregnancy and child-bearing has remained almost stationary for many years, in spite of the measures taken to reduce the number of preventible deaths among mothers, and the fact that the birth-rate has fallen from 23.6 per 1,000 (1911-15) to 16.3 per 1,000 (1929). Over the same period, the figures for maternal mortality were as follows:—

1911-15.—4.0	per 1,000 women giving birth to live children.
1916-20.—4.12	per 1,000 women giving birth to live children.
1921-25.—3.9	per 1,000 women giving birth to live children.
1929. —4.3	per 1,000 women giving birth to live children.

The Committee formed the opinion that not less than one half the cases of death were directly preventable under suitable conditions.

In the chapter on the Conclusions and Recommendations of the Committee, which include reference to a "National Maternity Service to make provision for all persons not in a position to procure for themselves similar benefits by private arrangement," the following remarks on the Co-ordination of Maternity Services are included. The Committee, after expressing their full appreciation of the immense progress made in recent years in the development of a National Maternity Service—the work under the Midwives' Acts, the establishment of Ante-natal, Maternal and Infant Welfare Clinics, the provision of Maternity Homes and Hospitals, the Institution of Maternity Benefit, the increased availability of Nurses, etc—consider there is further need for co-ordination of these services in every health area concerned and their extension to enlist the co-operation of the general practitioner. The essential services to be provided are summed up as follows:—

- 1.—The provision in every case of the services of a qualified midwife to act either as midwife or as maternity nurse.
- 2.—The provision of a doctor to carry out Ante-natal and Post-natal examination in every case, and to attend during pregnancy, labour and the puerperium, as may prove necessary, all cases showing any abnormality.
- 3.—The provision of a consultant, when desired by the doctor in attendance, during pregnancy, labour and the puerperium.
- 4.—The provision of hospital beds for such cases as need institutional care.
- 5.—The provision of certain ancillary services (*e.g.*, transport, sterilised equipment, laboratory facilities).

The Committee consider that such facilities cannot prove effective unless they are both used and correlated. By means of the co-ordination and extension of such arrangements on the principles laid down in their present Report the Committee are convinced that many preventable deaths can be, in fact, prevented.

There are now 16 Ante-natal Clinics open in the County. The number of women who attended as new cases during the year 1930 was 1,047, and they made 1,931 attendances, whilst many other cases attended the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Difficult confinement cases have for some years been referred to Dr. G. I. Strachan, F.R.C.S., Consultant Obstetric Surgeon to the Cardiff Royal Infirmary and who is also the appointed Consultant Obstetric Surgeon to the Monmouthshire County Council, and an extended use of his services was made in 1930.

The Maternity Home of the Monmouthshire Nursing Association at Tredegar is available for women whose homes are unsuitable for a confinement, and for others who need hospital care.

Facilities for Hospital treatment of severe complicated labour cases are still limited to the accommodation which can be obtained at the Maternity Department of the Cardiff Royal Infirmary, which authority has been very obliging to the County Council in this matter. It is gratifying to be able to record that the County Council has decided to proceed with the scheme for equipping and utilising the Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital. What a blessing this Institution will be when the premises are ready and can be made available to meet all emergencies which are likely to arise at confinements.

ANTE-NATAL CARE.—The Report of the first full year's working of the 16 Ante-natal Clinics is one of unqualified success. The 16 Clinics were visited by 1,047 expectant mothers, who made 1,931 attendances, the average attendance being 9.9 per session. The majority of the Clinics are open on one day a month, and there are signs that several of them will have to be held oftener to cope with the demand for consultations with the Medical Officers in charge.

The Clinics are kept apart from the routine Maternity and Child Welfare sessions, and are attended by three of the Lady Assistant Medical Officers specially qualified for the work, Dr. Mary Scott being chiefly responsible for the work.

The midwives are giving their hearty co-operation and many of them attended with their patients at the Clinics. Records of all Ante-natal work are kept at the Clinic, and are available at any time for the use of any professional attendant at the confinement.

The Clinics are provided with all the equipment necessary for Ante-natal work, which equipment was furnished through the generosity of "The Save the Children Fund" and to which organisation the County owes a deep and lasting debt of gratitude, not only for their aid in this respect, and which work has already been reported in a previous paragraph as an unqualified success in its first year of working, but also for their handsome and timely contributions in past years to further the interests of Child Welfare in Monmouthshire.

Leaflets on "Motherhood" are supplied to each of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres for distribution to expectant mothers.

The wisdom of an Ante-natal examination is becoming more and more apparent to the expectant mothers of the County. There are many benefits to be derived from obtaining skilled advice at the earliest moment.

There is firstly the expectant mother's feeling of content that her case is in the hands of a doctor who has made a study of the subject and is only too happy to use his or her knowledge in the interests of the expectant mother and the expected child.

Secondly, bodily comfort in pregnancy can be assured, for many minor ailments which cause unnecessary suffering can be corrected by simple methods.

Thirdly, there are the danger symptoms which can be detected by a skilled doctor and the necessary steps taken to do everything possible to ensure a satisfactory confinement.

One of the chief causes of the falling birth-rate is that the young married women of to-day are inclined to be afraid of the risks of motherhood. They must be taught that with Ante-natal care the danger is considerably lessened, and in this direction the knowledge that there is an Ante-natal Clinic in the district should be of great service.

It will therefore be seen that there is a definite place in the community for Ante-natal Clinics, where the expectant mother can be assured of receiving sympathy, understanding, and consideration, where she will be taught that pregnancy ought to be a time of well-being, and be helped to achieve it. In her own circle a woman will often be told of the troubles that are in front of her. It is the duty of the doctor and the health visitor at the Clinic to lighten her lot, and that duty is willingly and conscientiously performed.

The following are the Reports of the Medical Officers in charge of the Ante-natal Clinics :—

Dr. MARY SCOTT, Assistant Medical Officer.

ABERGAVERNNEY.—This is the only Centre in which the attendance of expectant mothers has been disappointing.

The number of new cases was seven, and re-visits numbered 1, the average attendance being .87.

Four mothers were confined normally before the end of the year, one had left the district for the Midlands, and the remaining patients were expecting confinement in the early part of 1931. All four children born were males.

One patient was given a free supply of fresh milk during the last two months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for a session of two hours monthly.

ABERSYCHAN.—During the year 48 new patients attended this Centre, and there were 51 re-visits, the average attendance at each session being 8.2.

Thirty-eight mothers were confined successfully and 19 living female and 20 living male children were born.

One mother was found on her second visit to the Centre to have developed a severe degree of Albuminuria.

She was referred to her own doctor, and an appointment was made with the County Consulting Obstetrician with a view to having her admitted to Cardiff Maternity Home. She developed eclampsia before this could be arranged and was delivered of a still-born male child three weeks before her confinement was due.

One mother attending had a miscarriage in the early months of pregnancy.

One patient was found to have pelvic contraction. She was referred to the Consultant, who advised admission to the Maternity Home. She was admitted to the Home but, unfortunately, her child was still-born.

Four patients were found to be not pregnant when they attended the Centre.

Twelve patients were given milk free in the later months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for a session of two hours monthly.

BLAENAVON.—This Centre had by the end of 1930 been in existence for about four months.

During that time 25 new patients attended and there were 14 re-visits, making an average attendance at each session of 7.8.

Eleven of these women were confined successfully, four female and seven male children being born. The remaining women do not expect to be confined until 1931.

Three patients were found to be not pregnant.

One patient developed albuminuria, and in spite of treatment had a premature still-born baby.

One patient was delivered of a living child suffering from Spina Bifida.

One patient was found to have Contracted Pelvis. She was referred to the Consulting Obstetrician, who admitted her to the Maternity Home, where she was delivered by Caesarian Section.

Eleven patients were granted free milk in the last months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for one whole day once monthly.

BLAINA.—During the year 129 new patients attended. There were 133 re-visits and the average attendance was 23.8. 107 of these mothers were confined successfully during the year, 55 female children and 54 male children being born.

In two cases twins were born, one set of two boys, and the other of a boy and girl.

Seven patients were found to be not pregnant.

Three patients had pregnancies which terminated in miscarriage, one mother unfortunately losing her life after one of these miscarriages. She had attended the Centre once and was referred to a General Hospital for treatment, but before this treatment had properly started she had a miscarriage and died.

One patient was delivered of a deformed still-born child and three others had living but premature children.

Four patients were referred to the Consultant and three were admitted to Hospital and delivered successfully there. The fourth was admitted to Hospital in the early months of pregnancy, kept there for several weeks for treatment and observation, and was later confined in her own home of a healthy living child.

The remaining patients who attended had not been confined before the end of the year.

Fifty-four mothers were granted free milk in the late months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for one whole day once a month.

CHEPSTOW.—During the year 22 new patients attended. There were 19 re-visits, and the average attendance was 3.4.

Eleven patients were confined successfully and 7 females and 4 males were born.

One patient had a still-born baby. The cause of this was unknown, and the baby had been dead about a week before confinement. One patient was referred to Dr. Strachan. He did not think admission to Hospital was necessary for her confinement, and she was confined successfully in her home.

One patient, for reasons unknown, had a miscarriage.

The remaining patients who attended had not been confined by the end of the year.

Four mothers were given a grant of milk during the year in the later months of their pregnancy.

This Centre is open for a two-hour session once a month.

EBBW VALE—Sixty-seven new patients attended this Centre. There was 64 re-visits and the average attendance was 11.9.

Fifty mothers were confined successfully and 24 female and 26 male children were born. One baby was premature and lived only two days.

One patient had a miscarriage, which was due to Albuminuria.

One mother had twins, one of whom was still-born.

Two patients were found to be not pregnant.

One patient had a normal pregnancy and normal easy confinement with living child, but died of Acute Mania within a few weeks of the birth.

Three patients were referred to the Consulting Obstetrician, two for malpresentation and one for contracted and deformed Pelvis. The two malpresentations were corrected before confinement and the 3rd patient was admitted to the Maternity Home. All three pregnancies terminated successfully in living children.

The remaining patients had not been confined by the end of the year.

Thirty-four mothers were granted fresh milk in the late months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for one half day monthly.

Ladies of the local Committee have attended throughout the year and have very kindly provided tea for the mothers. This has been very acceptable to the patients, as many live a considerable distance from the Clinic.

MONMOUTH.—During the year 30 new patients attended this Centre. There were 43 re-visits and the average attendance was 6.0.

Twenty-five mothers were confined successfully during the year and 16 male children and 10 female children were born, one birth resulting in twins, both female children.

Two mothers, because of unfavourable home circumstances, were confined in Tredegar Maternity Home.

There were two still-births. One of the patients suffered from Albuminuria, and although she was referred to her own doctor and carefully treated by him she had a premature still-born child.

The other patient was found on her first visit to the Centre to have a malpresentation. Arrangements were made for her admission to Hospital but at the last moment she refused to go, with the result that she lost her own life and the child was still-born.

The remaining patients had not been confined by the end of year.

Twelve mothers were granted free milk in the last months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for one session of two hours monthly.

NEW TREDEGAR.—During the year 101 new patients attended. There were 65 re-visits and the average attendance at each session was 15.1.

Sixty-six patients were successfully delivered of living children, 31 female and 36 male children being born. One set of twins was born.

Four patients were found to be not pregnant.

One patient who refused Hospital treatment had a still-born baby.

One patient suffering from Venereal Disease had a still-born baby.

One patient had a still-born baby suffering from Hare Lip and Cleft Palate.

One patient, perfectly healthy, and in spite of all attention and care, had a miscarriage. This was this patient's fourth miscarriage. No cause for these miscarriages in this particular case can be discovered, although the patient was examined carefully both before and during pregnancy.

One patient was referred to the Consultant but he did not think it necessary for her to be admitted to Hospital for confinement. She was confined at home successfully.

One patient attended three months before confinement but did not return again. Because of post-maturity, causing disproportion between Pelvis and child, her own family doctor sent her to Hospital during labour. She was confined about 24 hours after admission to Hospital of a still-born child and died within a few hours.

One elderly patient had a still-born deformed premature child. This was, as far as she could remember, about her 16th child.

One patient had left the district before her confinement and could not be traced.

The remaining patients who attended had not been confined by the end of the year.

Forty patients were given free fresh milk in the later stages of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for a session of three hours once a month.

PENGAM.—During the year 79 new patients attended the Centre; there were 60 re-visits, and the average attendance was 11.58

Sixty-six patients were delivered of living children, 32 female and 34 male children being born.

One mother had twins, but one was still-born.

One had a premature child, which was still-born, due to Albuminuria.

One patient suffering from Albuminuria attended the Centre 18 hours after labour had commenced. She was delivered about one hour after she returned home, having had throughout practically no pain. The child was still-born and had been dead for some time.

Three patients were found to be not pregnant. The remaining patients had not been delivered by the end of the year.

Thirty-four mothers were granted milk in the last months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for one day once a month.

The local Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have given much help to expectant mothers.

PONTYPOOL.—During the year 78 new patients attended and the number of re-visits was 59. The average attendance was 13.7.

Sixty-one pregnancies terminated in living children, 37 female children and 25 male children being born. There was one set of twins.

One mother had a still-born child, the cause of the still-birth being unknown.

One patient with slightly Contracted Pelvis, who came once to the Centre when about 14 weeks pregnant, but did not return again, had a difficult labour and a still-born child.

One patient came to the Centre when 20 weeks pregnant. It is generally not possible to diagnose the presentation at this stage. She did not return again and had a Mal-presentation and difficult labour, resulting in a still birth.

Two patients were referred to the Consultant and successfully confined in the Maternity Home.

One patient attended who was not pregnant.

The remaining patients had not been confined by the end of the year.

Twenty-seven mothers were given fresh milk during the late months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for one half day per month.

RHYMNEY.—During the year 32 new patients attended this Centre. There were 23 re-visits, and the average attendance was 5.5.

Twenty-six mothers were confined successfully, and 14 female and 14 male children were born. There were two sets of twins.

Two patients were found to be not pregnant.

Two patients, because of unfavourable home conditions, were admitted to the Tredegar Maternity Home and confined there.

Several patients had not been confined by the end of the year.

Seventeen mothers had a grant of free fresh milk given them in the late months of pregnancy.

This Centre is open for a session of 2 hours once a month.

TREDEGAR.—Thirty-one new patients attended this Centre during the year. There were 55 re-visits, and the average attendance was 7.8.

Twenty-six patients were confined successfully, twelve female children and 15 male children being born. There was one set of twins.

One patient cannot be traced.

The remaining patients had not been confined by the end of the year.

Twenty-four mothers were granted milk in the late months of pregnancy.

One patient with Contracted Pelvis was referred to her own doctor, who arranged for her admission to the local Hospital. She had a Cæsarian Section operation and had a living child.

GENERAL.—All of the above Ante-natal Centres with the exception of Blaenavon, have been open for rather over a year. At the beginning of the year the numbers attending the Centres were not large but with each month more women began to take advantage of the Centres. A certain number it is true, attended in order to obtain a supply of fresh milk which is granted to necessitous patients in the later months of pregnancy, but many (more than 50 per cent. taking the Centres all over) attended simply for advice and attention.

The majority of pregnancies run a normal course without serious complications, but even in those more or less normal pregnancies, advice given on minor ailments and difficulties, adds greatly to the general comfort of the mothers at this time.

When a patient attends an Ante-natal Centre for the first time, a record of the previous pregnancies, if any, and her past health is taken. An examination of her general physical condition is made, special points relating to pregnancy investigated, and pelvic measurements taken.

The patient is then advised to attend monthly as a rule. During the last month (and in the intervening months if necessary) the patient is examined again with a view to ascertaining as far as possible whether she is likely to have a normal confinement or not. In difficult cases and in cases where further advice is deemed necessary the patients are referred to Dr. Strachan the Consulting Obstetrician.

Our three greatest difficulties at these Centres are firstly, in finding time to see and examine all the patients attending, in the limited time at our disposal; and secondly, in persuading the patients that it is essential to attend for examination about the 36th week of pregnancy. At this time malpresentations and other abnormalities may be diagnosed and any disproportion between mother and child may be determined.

The Health Visitors do what visiting they can and try to encourage the mothers to attend to the end of pregnancy, but unfortunately the Health Visitors have not the time to spend in this work at present. A third difficulty is in getting mothers suffering from Albuminuria to keep on special diet. They are tempted to break the rules of their diet sheet many times and the results, with a number at least have been a premature labour and still-born baby.

Many family doctors were written to during the year when some defect was noted. When a patient had been sent by a midwife for examination, a letter was usually written to the midwife with advice regarding her patient.

The midwives in most districts have been of great assistance in bringing or sending patients to the Ante-natal Centres.

Dr. MARY GORDON.

NEWPORT.—This Ante-natal Clinic was opened in December, 1929. It consists of a morning and afternoon session held one day per month.

During 1930, 97 new cases attended, the total figures for attendance was 164 and the average per session was 14.9.

Of the new cases reporting, 52 were primipara. Six cases were referred to the Clinic by their own doctors, 34 by midwives and the others, with the exception of 5 or 6 who came of their own accord, were sent from the County Infant Welfare Centres. One hopes that next year more patients will attend voluntarily.

Several midwives made full use of the Clinic, but there are still several who neither examine their Ante-natal patients themselves nor yet advise attendance at the Clinic.

Six cases were referred to Mr. Strachan, Consultant Obstetrician. Of these, 2 went into Cardiff Maternity Hospital for their confinements.

Free milk was given to necessitous cases, and simple tonics and aperients were prescribed. Dental treatment was given to 4 patients.

Dr. PHILOMENE R. WHITAKER.

OAKDALE.—The number of patients attending this Clinic shows an encouraging increase. The total number for the year was 132, as compared to 89 last year. Of these 24.6 per cent. were primipara, while 75.4 per cent. were multipara. 3 per cent. of cases showed abnormal pregnancies and were referred to the Consulting Obstetrician.

CRUMLIN.—The total attendances for the year were 265, as against 176 last year and, more striking, 79 in 1927.

During 1927, 1928, and in 1930, 142 new cases attended. This is very encouraging, and proves that the expectant mothers are beginning to realize the value of Ante-natal supervision. Of those attending 74 per cent. were multipara, and 26 per cent. primipara. 6.8 per cent. showed some abnormal feature in their pregnancies.

ABERTILLERY.—This Clinic was opened in July and is held on the second Tuesday in each month. The attendance has been highly satisfactory, being 22.3 per session. One pleasing feature is the high percentage of primipara that attend, being 37 per cent. Some 7 per cent. showed abnormalities, 5 cases of contracted pelvis, one with severe heart disease, two occipito-posterior position.

It is encouraging to note the number of primiparas, as these serve as an indication of the real work of the Centre. The multipara attends very often by reason of lack of nourishment, but the primipara attends for advice upon her condition.

SCHEDULE OF ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Clinic	Premises Used	Day and Time of Ante-natal Clinic	Date of Opening	Medical Officer in Charge	District served by the Clinic	No. of New Cases attend'd	Re-Visits	Total	Average Attendance at each Session
Abergavenny	...	4th Tuesday in month, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	1929 Nov., 26th	Dr. Mary Scott	Abergavenny Urban and Rural Areas	7	1	8	.87
Abersychan	...	1st Wed. in month, 2 to 4 p.m.	Nov., 6th	Dr. Mary Scott	Abersychan, Varteg and Garndiffaith	48	51	99	8.2
Abertillery	...	2nd Tuesday in month, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	1930 July, 19th	Dr. Philomene Whitaker	Abertillery Urban District	82	52	134	22.3
Blaenavon	...	4th Friday in month, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.	July, 29th	Dr. Mary Scott	Blaenavon Urban District	25	14	39	7.8
Blaina	...	2nd Tuesday in month 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	1929 Nov., 12th	Dr. Mary Scott	Nantyglo and Blaina	129	133	262	23.8
Chepstow	...	1st Friday in month, 2 to 4 p.m.	Dec., 6th	Dr. Mary Scott	Chepstow Urban and Rural Areas	22	19	41	3.4
Crumlin	...	Alternate Fridays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.	Nov., 1st	Dr. Philomene Whitaker	Llanhilleth, Crumlin, Havodrynyys, Newbridge, Abercarn and Cwmearn	142	123	265	9.1
Ebbw Vale	...	3rd Tuesday in month, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	Nov., 19th	Dr. Mary Scott	Ebbw Vale, Beaufort, Victoria, Waunllwyd and Cwm	67	64	131	11.9
Monmouth	...	1st Friday in month, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	Dec., 6th	Dr. Mary Scott	Monmouth Urban and Rural Areas	30	43	73	6.0
Newport	...	1st Monday in month, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.	Dec., 2nd	Dr. Mary Gordon	Machen, Rhiwderin, Rogerstone, Bassaleg, Ynysddu, Cwmfelinfach, Cross Keys, Risca, Pontnewydd, Cwmbran, Malpas, Caerleon, Caldicot, Magor Rural Area, Rumney and St. Mellons Rural Area	97	67	164	14.9
New Tredegar	...	3rd Friday in month, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.	Nov., 15th	Dr. Mary Scott	New Tredegar, Cwmsyfiog and Aberbargoed	101	65	166	15.1
Oakdale	...	Alternate Mondays, 2 to 4 p.m.	Oct., 28th	Dr. Philomene Whitaker	Oakdale, Blackwood and Pontllanfraith	77	55	132	5.5
Pengam	...	1st Tuesday in month, 2 to 4 p.m.	Dec., 3rd	Dr. Mary Scott	Cefn Forest, Pengam, Maescywmmer, Bedwas and Trethomas	79	60	139	11.5
Pontypool	...	4th Tuesday in month, 2 to 4 p.m.	Nov., 26th	Dr. Mary Scott	Pontypool, Pontnewydd, Pontymoile, Panteg, and Griffithstown.	78	59	137	13.7
Rhymney	...	1st Tuesday in month, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.	Dec., 3rd	Dr. Mary Scott	Rhymney and Abertyswg	32	23	55	5.5
Tredegar	...	3rd Tuesday in month, 2 to 4 p.m.	Nov., 19th	Dr. Mary Scott	Tredegar, Sirhowy, Trevil, Bedwellty Pits, Troedrhigwair, Hollybush, Markham Village and Argoed	31	55	86	7.8
Totals ...						1047	884	1931	9.9

F.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The following are the details of the Centres now open under the scheme approved by the County Council and the Local Government Board in 1916, the number being 42 :—

Location of Centre.	District Served.	Premises Utilised	Date of Opening	Day and Hours of Consultations	Medical Officer.
Aberbargoed ...	Aberbargoed	Domestic Arts Centre, Aberbargoed School	1917 Nov. 4th	Wednesday, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.	Dr. A. Roberts
Abercarn ...	Abercarn and Cwmcarn	English Baptist Church Schoolroom, Abercarn	Oct. 18th	Thursday, 10 a.m.—12-30 p.m., 2-30—4-30 p.m.	Dr. E. M. Griffith
Abergavenny ...	Abergavenny Urban and Rural Districts	Boy Scouts' Rooms, Abergavenny.	April 17th	Tuesday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.	Dr. G. W. Parry
Abersychan ...	Abersychan	Congregational Schoolroom, Abersychan.	1918 Oct. 29th	Wednesday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m.	Dr. R.J.S. Verity
Abertillery ...	Abertillery and Cwmillery	Tabernacle Schoolroom Chapel Street, Abertillery	1917 June 8th	Friday, 10-45 a.m.—3 p.m.	Dr. T. Baillie Smith
Abertysswg ...	Abertysswg	Ainon Baptist Chapel, Abertysswg	1920 July 7th	Wednesday, 10 a.m.—2 p.m.	Dr. T. M. O'Riordan
Beaufort ...	Beaufort	Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, Beaufort	1919 Sept. 3rd	Wednesday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m.	Dr. Mary Scott
Blackwood ...	Blackwood, Pontllanfraith and Argoed	Parish Hall, Blackwood	1917 April 20th	Alternate Mondays 10-30 a.m.—12-30 p.m. and 2—4 p.m.	Dr. P. R. Whitaker
Blaenavon ...	Blaenavon	Technical Build'gs, Cwmavon Road, Blaenavon.	June 6th	Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. J. Reynolds
Blaina ...	Blaina	Church Institute, Blaina	April 17th	Friday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. E. M. Owen
Caerleon ...	Caerleon and Christchurch	Ty Craig, High Street, Caerleon.	Nov. 21st	Alternate Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. M. Gordon
Caldicot ...	Caldicot, Sudbrook, Portskewett & District	Wesleyan Chapel, Caldicot.	1920 June 1st	Tuesday, 1-30—3-30 p.m.	Dr. M. Gordon
Chepstow ...	Chepstow Urban and Rural Districts	Domestic Arts Centre, Bridge Street School, Chepstow	1917 March 27th	Thursday, 10 a.m.—12 noon, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. T. L. Drapes
Crosskeys ...	Crosskeys, Wattsville and Pontywaun	Primitive Methodist Schoolroom, Crosskeys	Nov 23rd	Friday, 2-4 p.m.	Dr. M. Gordon
Crumlin ...	Crumlin	4 Hafodyrynys Road, Crumlin.	1924 March 28th	Friday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. P. R. Whitaker
Cwm ...	Cwm, Victoria and Waunllwyd	Parish Hall, Cwm	1917 Nov 20th	Thursday, 10-30 a.m.—3 p.m.	Dr. W. Panes
Cwmbran ...	Llantarnam, Cwmbran, Llanfrechfa & Ponthir	Council Offices, Cwmbran	March 21st	Thursday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. W. Austin
Ebbw Vale ...	Ebbw Vale	James Street Wesleyan Chapel, Ebbw Vale	March 13th	Tuesday, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.	Dr. F. M. Fonseca
Garndiffaith ...	Varteg, Victoria, Cwmavon & Garndiffaith	Calvinistic Methodist Schoolroom, Garndiffaith	Oct. 23rd	Tuesday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m.	Dr. R.J.S. Verity

Location of Centre.	District Served	Premises Utilised.	Date of Opening	Day and Hours of Consultations	Medical Officer.
Llanhilleth	... Llanhilleth and Aberbeeg	Workmen's Institute, Llanhilleth	1917 Oct. 15th	Monday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. T. Baillie Smith
Malpas	... Malpas	The Institute,	1930 Jan. 2nd	Alternate Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon	Dr. Mary Gordon
Monmouth	... Monmouth Urban and Rural Districts	Workingmen's Inst., Monk St., Monmouth	1917 June 15th	Friday, 2-30—4-30 p.m.	Dr. W. H. Williams
Nantyglo	... Nantyglo	English Wesleyan Church, Nantyglo	1924 July 14th	Mondays, 1 p.m.—4 p.m.	Dr. E. D. Owen
Newbridge	... Newbridge and Pentwynmawr	Tabernacle Baptist Schoolroom, Newbridge	1917 March 20th	Monday, 10—12 noon, and 2—4 p.m.	Dr. W. R. Nash
Newport	... Maesglas, Gaer Park, St. Brides, Magor, etc.	School Clinic, Stanley Road, Newport	March 21st	Alternate Wednesdays 2—4 p.m.	Dr. M. Gordon
New Tredegar	... New Tredegar and Cwmsyflog	Wesleyan Methodist Schoolroom, New Tredegar	March 29th	Monday, 10—12 noon and 2—4 p.m.	Dr. A. Roberts
Oakdale	... Oakdale, Rhiw-syr-dafydd and Markham Village.	Women's Institute, Oakdale	1918 Oct. 25th	Alternate Mondays, 10.30—2.0 p.m.	Dr. P. R. Whitaker
Panteg	... Panteg, Griffithstown and Pontrhydyrun	Baptist Chapel, Griffithstown.	1917 March 21st	Thursday, 10—12 noon	Dr. W. Austin
Pengam	... Pengam, Fleur-de-lis and Maesycwmmmer	Vine House, High Street, Pengam	March 12th	Thursday, 10.30—12.30 and 1-30—3-30 p.m.	Dr. Mary Scott
Pontnewynydd	... Pontnewynydd	Wesleyan Chapel, Pontnewynydd	April 19th	Thursday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m.	Dr. R. J. S. Verity
Pontymoile	... Pontymoile, New Inn, and Pontypool Road	Mission Hall, Pontymoile	Oct. 17th	Tuesday, 10—12 noon,	Dr. W. Austin
Pontypool	... Pontypool, Mamhilad, Glascoed, Goytre, Coedypaen, Llangibby	Tabernacle Schoolroom, Crane Street, Pontypool	May 9th	Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. W. Austin
Rhymney	... Rhymney and Rhymney Bridge.	Domestic Arts Centre, Middle Rhymney School	March 12th	Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. R. V. de A. Redwood
Risca	... Risca	Domestic Arts Centre, Danygraig School, Risca	March 23rd	Friday, 10—12 noon and 2—4 p.m.	Dr. W. B. Owen
Rogerstone	... Rogerstone, Bassaleg, and Rhiwderin	Domestic Arts Centre, Rogerstone School	Nov. 12th	Alternate Fridays, 10—12 noon	Dr. P. R. Whitaker
Rumney	... St. Mellons, Peterstone and Rumney	Baptist Chapel, Rumney	Dec. 5th	Alternate Thursdays, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. E. D. Owen
Six Bells	... Six Bells & Aberbeeg	Methodist Chapel, High St., Six Bells	1920 Sept. 29th	Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. T. Baillie Smith
Tredegar	... Tredegar, Sirhowy, Trevil, Troedrhigwair, Bedwellty, Pits, Hollybush	Wesleyan Chapel, Harcourt St., Tredegar	1917 Feb. 26th	Tuesday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m.	Dr. E. T. H. Davies
Trethomas	... Trethomas, Bedwas, and Machen	Baptist Chapel, Trethomas	April 19th	Monday, 10.30—12.30 and 1-30—3-30 p.m.	Dr. Mary Scott
Upper Pontnewydd	... Pontnewydd and Croesyceiliog.	Ashley House, Pontnewydd.	1919 June 16th	Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. W. Austin
Usk	... Usk and Rural Area	Twyn Square, Usk.	Nov. 11th	Alternate Tuesdays, 2—4 p.m.	Dr. P. R. Whitaker
Ynysddu	... Cwmfelinfach and Ynysddu	Domestic Arts Centre, Ynysddu School.	March 23rd 1917	Friday, 10—12 noon	Dr. M. Gordon

C.—DETAILS OF ATTENDANCES AT CENTRES.

CENTRE	MEDICAL OFFICER	No. of Infants on Register at 1st Dec., 1930	INFANTS				NURSING MOTHERS		EXPECTANT MOTHERS	
			No. of new cases which attended during year	No. of Re-visits	Total No. of Visits	Average Attendance at each Session	No. on Register	No. of Attendances during year	No. on Register	No. of Attendances during year
Aberbargoed	Dr. A. Roberts	349	164	1800	1964	40.8	127	301	58	129
Abercarn	Dr. E. M. Griffith	275	135	2808	2943	61.3	2	2	—	—
Abergavenny	Dr. G. W. Parry	274	129	1545	1674	33.4	2	2	—	—
Abersychan	Dr. R. J. S. Verity	160	103	851	954	19.8	42	102	5	7
Abertillery	Dr. T. B. Smith	674	328	4019	4347	90.3	80	150	79	124
Abertyswg	Dr. T. M. O'Riordan	113	47	976	1023	21.3	51	193	6	12
Beaufort	Dr. M. Scott	117	80	595	675	14.0	21	39	9	15
Blackwood	Dr. P. R. Whitaker	301	161	1351	1512	63.0	158	317	47	85
Blaenavon	Dr. J. Reynolds	362	192	1808	2000	41.6	139	306	38	39
Blaina	Dr. E. D. Owen	262	157	1579	1736	35.4	50	108	1	1
Caerleon	Dr. M. Gordon	96	40	583	623	24.9	13	13	1	3
Caldicot	Dr. M. Gordon	163	52	1574	1626	33.1	28	147	9	30
Chepstow	Dr. T. L. Drapes	232	78	1895	1973	41.1	17	104	1	15
Crosskeys	Dr. M. Gordon	94	49	868	917	19.1	31	98	17	37
Crumlin	Dr. P. R. Whitaker	236	142	1188	1330	28.2	48	178	—	—
Cwm	Dr. W. Panes	203	143	1615	1758	36.6	31	80	7	9
Cwmbran	Dr. W. Austin	215	105	1234	1339	27.8	51	117	5	5
Ebbw Vale	Dr. F. M. Fonseca	420	315	2654	2969	60.5	48	119	6	8
Gardiffaith	Dr. R. J. S. Verity	168	91	903	994	20.2	23	38	2	3
Llanhilleth	Dr. T. B. Smith	412	226	2279	2505	53.2	67	229	51	141
Malpas	Dr. M. Gordon	120	111	710	821	31.5	6	35	5	9
Monmouth	Dr. W. H. Williams	174	102	1048	1150	23.9	32	122	—	—
Nantyglo	Dr. E. D. Owen	184	73	1344	1417	29.5	59	113	3	3
Newbridge	Dr. W. R. Nash	300	157	2448	2605	54.2	16	48	—	—
Newport	Dr. M. Gordon	140	102	501	603	24.1	20	67	5	5
New Tredegar	Dr. A. Roberts	266	150	1691	1841	38.3	118	265	27	49
Oakdale	Dr. P. R. Whitaker	163	96	924	1020	42.5	75	208	72	125
Panteg	Dr. W. Austin	167	83	1145	1228	25.5	45	113	2	3
Pengam	Dr. M. Scott	342	173	1605	1778	37.0	105	259	17	32
Pontnewydd	Dr. W. Austin	157	72	990	1062	21.6	43	106	1	1
Pontnewydd	Dr. R. J. S. Verity	277	156	1692	1848	38.5	68	125	4	4
Pontymoile	Dr. W. Austin	130	57	976	1033	21.5	31	123	2	3
Pontypool	Dr. W. Austin	277	152	1555	1707	35.5	46	89	1	1
Rhymney	Dr. R. V. de A. Redwood	224	134	1174	1308	26.7	60	140	9	16
Risca	Dr. W. B. Owen	324	171	3362	3533	73.5	49	106	41	117
Rogerstone	Dr. P. R. Whitaker	134	55	875	930	35.7	28	103	7	12
Runney	Dr. E. D. Owen	82	58	448	506	18.7	15	57	1	1
Six Bells	Dr. T. B. Smith	354	206	2142	2348	48.9	43	145	47	103
Tredegarr	Dr. E. T. H. Davies	478	287	2290	2577	53.6	—	—	—	—
Trehomas	Dr. M. Scott	300	133	1773	1906	39.7	70	206	26	62
Uisk	Dr. P. R. Whitaker	68	35	294	329	13.7	20	137	6	13
Ynysddu	Dr. M. Gordon	198	107	1370	1477	30.7	58	173	30	53
Total	...	9985	5407	62482	67889	36.8	2036	5383	648	1275

H.—DETAILS OF MOTHERS' AILMENTS UPON WHICH ADVICE WAS GIVEN AT THE CENTRES.

Peculiar to Nursing Mothers—			Varicose Veins	...	173
Deficient Lactation	...	150	Bronchitis & Bronchial Catarrh	...	170
Sore Nipples	...	30	Heart Disease	...	63
Mastitis	...	29	Asthma	...	4
Abscess of Breast	...	10	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	96	Pleurisy	...	3
			Pruritus	...	2
			Miscellaneous	...	72
Peculiar to Women—			Skin—		
Abnormal Vaginal Discharge	...	66	Eczema	...	10
Contracted Pelvis	...	50	Boils	...	7
Leucorrhœa	...	40	Urticaria	...	6
Pruritus Vulvæ	...	29	Septic Fingers	...	5
Menorrhagia	...	27	Alopecia	...	4
Retracted Nipples	...	16	Lipoma	...	1
Amenorrhœa	...	9	Scabies	...	1
Hyperemesis	...	8	Abscess	...	1
Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage	...	7	Miscellaneous	...	102
Prolapse of Uterus	...	7			
Dysmenorrhœa	...	6	Eye—		
Threatened Miscarriage	...	5	Blepharitis	...	10
Miscarriage	...	4	Conjunctivitis	...	9
Vulvitis	...	2	Defective Vision	...	8
Cystitis	...	2	Stye	...	1
Menopause	...	2	Epiphora	...	1
Puerperal Insanity	...	1	Miscellaneous	...	42
Retroversion	...	1			
Cystocele	...	1	Ear, Nose and Throat—		
Pseudocycæsis	...	1	Laryngitis	...	15
Hydramnios	...	1	Otorrhœa	...	10
Miscellaneous	...	22	Quinsy	...	2
			Tonsillitis	...	1
Alimentary System—			Nasal Catarrh	...	1
Constipation	...	905	Miscellaneous	...	25
Dental Caries	...	359			
Gastritis	...	210	Nervous System—		
Pyorrhœa	...	70	Neuritis	...	8
Hæmorrhoids	...	62	Neuralgia	...	2
Diarrhœa	...	20	Chorea	...	2
Enteritis	...	10	Nervous Debility	...	2
Dyspepsia	...	3	Epilepsy	...	1
Stomatitis	...	1	Sciatica	...	1
Worms	...	1	Vertigo	...	1
Visceroptosis	...	1	Miscellaneous	...	65
Ulcerated Mouth	...	1			
Miscellaneous	...	73			
Respiratory, Cardiac and Circulatory Systems—					
Anæmia	...	253			

Urinary System—				Miscellaneous—			
Albuminuria	...	...	120	Debility and Malnutrition	...	...	421
Oedema	...	...	26	Pains associated with Pregnancy—			
Nephritis	...	...	12	Backache	...	...	56
Cystitis	...	...	6	Headache	...	...	27
Stone	...	...	1	Abdominal Pains	...	...	22
Post Parturient Nephritis	...	...	1	Abnormal Presentation	...	...	13
Incontinence	...	...	1	Other Diseases not classified	...	...	65
Miscellaneous	...	...	20				
						Grand Total	4236
Rheumatism	...	...	1				
Venereal Diseases—							
Venereal Diseases	...	...	19				
Suspicious Venereal Disease	...	...	1				

I.—DETAILS OF INFANTS' AILMENTS UPON WHICH ADVICE WAS GIVEN AT THE CENTRES.

Prematurity, Birth Injuries and				Dyspepsia	...	...	45
Malformations—				Flatulence	...	...	43
Umbilical Protrusion and Hernia	...	...	424	Vomiting	...	...	28
Phimosis	...	...	260	Jaundice	...	...	27
Inguinal Hernia	...	...	51	Colitis	...	...	14
Tongue Tie	...	...	51	Icterus Neonatorum	...	...	2
Undescended Testicles	...	...	24	Tenesmus	...	...	1
Hydrocephalus	...	...	13	Rectal Prolapse	...	...	1
Hydrocele	...	...	12	Appendicitis	...	...	1
Spina Bifida	...	...	8	Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	1
Birth Palsy	...	...	1	Tetany	...	...	1
Erbs Palsy	...	...	1	Thrush	...	...	1
Meningocele	...	...	1	Miscellaneous	...	...	40
Tumour of Testis	...	...	1				
Malformation	...	...	1	Respiratory, Cardiac and Circulatory			
Hypospadias	...	...	1	Systems—			
Miscellaneous	...	...	25	Bronchitis and Bronchial Catarrh	...	...	1337
Alimentary System—				Common Colds	...	...	104
Constipation	...	...	736	Anæmia	...	...	84
Enteritis	...	...	337	Cough	...	...	57
Dental Caries	...	...	225	Heart Disease	...	...	38
Gastro Enteritis	...	...	188	Whooping Cough	...	...	10
Stomatitis	...	...	170	Pneumonia	...	...	8
Gastritis	...	...	162	Asthma	...	...	4
Worms	...	...	152	Cyanosis	...	...	2
Diarrhoea	...	...	97	Empyema	...	...	1
				Miscellaneous	...	...	30

J.—REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE CENTRES.

1.—DR. MARY SCOTT, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

FEEDING OF INFANTS UNDER NINE MONTHS OF AGE.

	Beaufort	Pengam	Trethomas
	%	%	%
Breast-fed	59.2	60.6	59.5
Artificially fed	27.7	23.3	24.4
Breast and Artificially fed	13.1	16.1	16.1

BEAUFORT CENTRE.—This Centre is open for two hours each week. The total number of babies brought to this Centre during the year 1930 showed a slight decrease compared to the year 1929. This is probably due to the fact that the Health Visitor of this district was on sick leave for several months and no visits, except first visits, were paid to infants during that time.

There was a definite increase in the amount of breast-feeding during the year, 59.2 as compared with 54.1, while the number of partly breast-fed babies also showed an increase.

During the year two of the Beaufort babies, both breast-fed, were successful in gaining second prizes at Ebbw Vale Baby Show, which is a good record for a comparatively small centre.

PENGAM CENTRE.—This Centre is open for one whole day each week. It serves a large district and infants are brought from Maesycwmmmer and from the outlying districts of Blackwood and Aberbargoed.

The attendance at the Centre was well maintained throughout the year.

There was a satisfactory increase in the amount of breast-feeding during the year, 60.6 as compared with 55.4, while there was a decrease in the number of purely artificially fed babies.

The ladies of the local Maternity and Child welfare Committee continue to take a deep interest in the welfare of mothers and babies of this district. They have been generous in giving interviews and help to cases of distress in the area. When it is considered that their efforts have gone on unceasingly throughout the year it will be agreed that many of them must have given much of their time to this work.

TRETHOMAS—This Centre is open for one whole day once a week. The attendance continues to be satisfactory. The amount of breast-feeding showed an increase over that of the previous year, 59.5 as compared with 57.4, with a corresponding decrease in the amount of artificial feeding.

At the end of the year the local colliery, which is the source of employment for practically all the men in this area, closed down, bringing with it all the usual difficulties which follow unemployment. The local Infant Welfare Committee have been very active in their efforts to relieve some of the distress amongst the mothers of this district.

GENERAL.—It is interesting to note that in all the three Centres there was an increase in the amount of breast-feeding. In Beaufort breast-feeding has increased by 5.1 per cent., in Pengam by 5.2 per cent., and in Trethomas by 2.1 per cent. This is very gratifying, as of late years the tendency has been rather towards a decrease in the amount of breast feeding. It is difficult to account for the change during 1930, unless it was due, partly at least, to the fact that more mothers received Ante-natal attention and a large number were helped during the last weeks of pregnancy by receiving a supply of fresh milk for their own special use.

The work at the Centres continues to be mainly preventative and drugs are not prescribed to any great extent.

Amongst infants attending these Centres there were very few signs of under-nourishment. Several of the mothers appeared rather under-nourished, but their numbers were not so great as might have been expected, considering the long period of industrial depression.

Toddlers did not attend the Centres in great numbers. Those who did attend were generally brought because of some minor ailment, and so cannot be taken as a sample of the average toddler in these areas. The methods of feeding these children, in many cases, leave much to be desired. There was a good deal of underweight discovered in those toddlers who attended, and an increasing number were found to be suffering from Rickets. At one time we had to search carefully for signs of Rickets, but during the last few years and especially during 1930, and particularly in Pengam, several cases of Rickets with very marked bone deformities have been discovered. Those children who have those gross deformities are all from homes which, for the last four or five years, have known nothing but "hard times."

No Ante-natal examination was done at any of the above Infant Welfare Centres, but Ante-natal attention was available on a separate day for all expectant mothers.

Many of the mothers, both nursing and expectant, continued to take advantage of the dental treatment available for them and have benefited greatly in health by so doing.

2.—Dr. WINIFRED AUSTIN, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

FEEDING OF INFANTS.

	Newbridge	Pontymoile	Pontypool	Pontnewydd	Panteg	Cwmbran
No. Breast-fed ...	105	49	92	41	60	59
No. Breast & artificially fed	22	16	40	23	13	30
No. Artificially fed ...	25	23	70	39	36	67

PONTYPOOL CENTRE.—This Clinic has increased during the past year. The number on register shows an increase of 46 and the individual cases have attended more regularly as is shown by the rise from 1220 to 1707 of the total number of attendances, and the much better average attendance at each session, this being 35.5 for 1930, compared with 25.4 for 1929. This increase coincides with an increase in the amount of free food given. The percentage of breast-fed infants has diminished from 48.7 to 46 per cent. Of the 70 children who were artificially fed, 11 had cow's milk, 46 dried milk, and 13 other infant foods.

73 toddlers attended the Clinic during the year.

PONTYMOILE CENTRE.

This Clinic shows a decrease in numbers of 16 from the previous year, but a better average attendance. The re-visits were 109 more and the attendance per Session 21.52 compared with 20.04 in 1929. Of the 88 infants under one year, 49 were breast-fed, i.e., 55.5 per cent., a marked increase from the 44.1 per cent. of the previous year.

23 infants were artificially fed, 7 on cows' milk, 12 on dried milk, and 4 on other brands of infant food.

48 toddlers attended the Clinic during the year.

PONTNEWYDD CENTRE.

The analysis of infant feeding for this Centre shows an increase in the percentage of breast-fed from 36.2 per cent. to 40 per cent., and a small increase in that of infants partly breast-fed.

The number attending the Clinic decreased from 172 to 157, but the average number of re-visits per individual was slightly higher.

40 toddlers attended this Clinic.

CWMBRAN CENTRE.—156 infants under 12 months of age attended this Clinic during the year. Of these 59 were breast-fed, a percentage of 37.8, rather lower than that of the preceding year which was 39.4.

This Clinic shows an unusually high percentage, 30 per cent., of babies fed on dried milk.

The number on the register has decreased by 24, the average attendance from 32.2 to 27.8.

The number of toddlers seen was 58.

PANTEG CENTRE.—This Clinic has steadily increased in size since its move from Sebastopol to Griffithstown. The average attendance for 1930 was 25.58, compared with 23.6 for 1929, but there are many mornings when the attendance is in the neighbourhood of 40.

The number on the register has risen from 167 to 175, and the total attendances from 1133 to 1228.

Of 109 infants 60 were breast-fed, raising the percentage from 51 (1929) to 55 (1930). Of the remaining 59, 13 were fed on breast with supplementary bottle-feeds, 14 on cows' milk and 12 on dried milk. It is unusual to find more infants on cows' milk than on dried milk.

The amount of free food given at this Centre is small.

53 toddlers were seen during the year.

NEWBRIDGE CENTRE.—This Clinic shows an increase of average attendance from 50 to 54.27 per session, and a large increase in breast feeding from 52 per cent. (1929) to 69 per cent. (1930). The percentage of babies fed partly on the breast remains about the same, 16.4 per cent., and that of artificially fed infants is only 14.4 per cent.

GENERAL.—Ante-Natal work at the infant welfare centres is now very small in amount, as most of the expectant mothers attend the ante-natal Clinics. A few who are unable to do so because of illness or nearness to time of delivery are treated at the nearest infant welfare centre.

TODDLERS.—Of 272 toddlers seen during the year 36 were noted as under-nourished, *i.e.*, 13.2 per cent.

3.—Dr. EVELYN D. OWEN, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

DETAILS OF INFANT FEEDING.

	Blaina	Nantyglo	Rumney
Breast-fed	44.8%	36.3%	35.6%
Breast and Artificially fed	24.8%	25.5%	44.4%
Artificially fed	30.4%	38.2%	20.0%

BLAINA CENTRE.—262 children attended this Clinic during the year with an average attendance of 35.4 per session. These numbers are almost the same as the previous year.

The percentage of breast-fed babies shows a slight decrease from 1929; that of the breast and artificially fed group a greater decrease; the percentage of purely artificial feeding a corresponding increase. Many of the mothers had already weaned their babies before their first visit to the Clinic with the child about a month old.

Of the 78 toddlers aged 2-5 years who were brought to the centre during the year 26, *i.e.*, one-third were found to be markedly underweight and in need of extra nourishment which was provided in the form of fresh milk, cod liver oil, Ostelin, etc. Four toddlers were referred to the Dental, and 2 to the Eye Clinics, while 2 were sent to the Tuberculosis Officer and appointments were made for the removal of tonsils and adenoids for 7.

There were 10 cases of marked rickets, 7 others showing slight signs of the disease.

The amount of free food supplied was considerably less than in 1929, but much more fresh milk was given. This was because the milk which was given to many mothers at the Ante-natal Clinic was continued to enable the mothers to breast feed the babies.

The number of nursing mothers attending the Clinic for advice and treatment shows a marked increase (21 in 1929, 50 in 1930). 19 (a large percentage) of these were suffering from general debility due to the impoverished condition of their new life. This undoubtedly accounts partly for the low percentage of breast feeding. One mother was found to be suffering from acute pulmonary tuberculosis.

All Ante-natal work is now done at a separate Clinic.

NANTYGLO CENTRE.—The number of children on the register at the end of the year was 184 with an average attendance of 27.2 per session. This is a decrease from 209 and 32.2 respectively for 1929, and is probably due to unavoidable absences and changes of medical officer during the year.

The percentage of breast-fed babies has decreased considerably, that of the breast and artificially fed group slightly, while the amount of purely artificial feeding has correspondingly increased. As in Blaina this is no doubt accounted for by the large number of mothers suffering from general debility, and the weaning of so many babies before their first appearance at the Clinic.

Of the 59 nursing mothers who attended for advice and treatment (a large increase on 1929 figures when 33 attended) as many as 26 were found to be suffering from general debility. As in other years the commonest complaint among the mothers was constipation. One mother was referred to the Tuberculosis Officer.

The proportion of toddlers suffering from malnutrition was much the same as at Blaina. These were given fresh milk, cod liver oil, etc. Alimentary and respiratory troubles were the commonest ailments among the babies. There were three cases of rickets.

Also as at Blaina the amount of free food supplied during the year was less than the previous year, while the fresh milk was more.

All Ante-natal cases were seen at the special Clinic in Blaina.

RUMNEY.—This Centre is held every alternate Thursday afternoon. 82 children were on the register at the end of the year with an average attendance of 18.7 per session. These figures are almost the same as the previous year.

From the table it would appear that the percentage of breast feeding has decreased from 64.9 in 1929 to 35.6 in 1930, while that of breast and artificial feeding has increased from 5.4 per cent. to 44.4 per cent. The figures for the two years are not comparable however, because previously if a mother breast-fed her baby for only six months it was placed in the first group, whereas this year only those breast-fed for nine months are put into that group, while those who started to wean or supplement the breast feeding at six months or so are placed in group 2. The fact that the purely artificial feeding has decreased from 29.7 per cent. in 1929 to 20 per cent. in 1930, shows that Rumney mothers have made a better effort to breast feed their babies.

21 toddlers from 2-5 years old were brought to the Clinic during the year. Three only were underweight, two were referred to the Dental and one to the Eye Clinics. One case of rickets was seen and one baby with hemiplegia was referred to the Orthopædic Clinic. One child was very much overclothed.

As in other years practically no free food was given at this Centre.

The attendance of nursing mothers shows an increase on 1929 (15 in 1930, 10 in 1929) with 42 re-visits against 16 the previous year. Constipation was their commonest complaint.

Ante-natal cases attended the special Clinic at Newport.

4.—Dr. MARY GORDON, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

DETAILS OF FEEDING.

	Ynysddu	Crosskeys	Caerleon	Caldicot	Newport	Malpas
Breast-fed. ...	60%	55%	60%	44%	37%	37%
Breast and Artificially fed	12%	32%	18%	20%	31%	18%
Artificially fed ...	28%	13%	22%	36%	32%	45%

YNYSDDU.—During the first half of the year the Clinic was held weekly, the Medical Officer attending on alternate weeks only, but latterly the Medical Officer attended weekly, and this arrangement is likely to continue.

The figures for attendance show a slight decrease all round compared with last year. The number of breast-fed babies still remains high, due largely to the giving of milk to necessitous nursing mothers. The amount of free milk and food given away was slightly less than last year, due, probably, to the decrease in the attendance this year.

Simple cough mixtures and ointments were prescribed for the babies, whose ailments consisted chiefly of bronchial and nasal catarrh. The babies on the whole were a healthy lot. One case of spina bifida was seen, and one severe case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

15 expectant mothers were referred to the Ante-natal Clinic at Newport.

The drugs prescribed for nursing mothers were simple tonics and aperients. Of the nursing mothers attending, 4 per cent. showed evidence of malnutrition. 6 received dental attention.

53 toddlers attended during the year. 16 of these (30 per cent.) were brought by their mothers to be weighed to see if they were up to standard, the remainder were brought because of various ailments, chiefly threadworms, enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and dental caries, 5 of the 53 (*i.e.*, about 10 per cent.), all of them aged between 2 and 3 years, showed definite evidence of malnutrition, and were given advice and help if necessary *re* diet and general hygiene. 23 children from 1-2 years attended.

Thanks are again due to Mrs. Evans and Mrs. Prosser, two ladies of the local Infant Welfare Committee, for their regular attendance and help at the Clinic throughout the year.

CROSS KEYS.—This Centre is open on Friday afternoons. During the first half of 1930 the Medical Officer attended on alternate weeks, and during the latter half each week and the weekly arrangement is likely to continue.

The number of new cases, re-visits and total attendances show a decrease all round, though the actual average attendance is only slightly smaller—19.10 compared with 19.70 the previous year. Breast feeding is also less than in 1929, but breast and artificially fed show an increase so that the smaller number of entirely breast-fed babies is not as significant as it would at first appear to be.

The babies on the whole were healthy. 4 cases of mild rickets were seen.

15 toddlers attended but showed no malnutrition.

15 nursing and 9 expectant mothers attended. The latter were referred to Newport Ante-natal Clinic.

Only one-third of the amount of free food was given away as compared with 1929, but the smaller attendance would account for some of the decrease.

Several ladies of the local Infant Welfare Committee attend regularly and their help is greatly appreciated.

CAERLEON.—This Centre is held every alternate Wednesday afternoon. The attendance during the year was very satisfactory and the figures showed an increase all round when compared with those of 1929. 40 new cases attended, 623 total attendances were made and the average attendance per session was 24.92 as compared with the corresponding figures of 39, 550 and 21.15 of the previous years.

There was a marked increase in the percentage of breast-fed babies—60 per cent. compared with 42 per cent. in 1929. The babies on the whole were more healthy than those of 1929. The mothers, too, were very fit and no cases of malnutrition were seen. A few mothers suffering from lactational deficiency whose husbands were agricultural labourers working irregularly were supplied with free milk. More food was given away than in 1929, accounted for by the larger attendance at the Clinic.

32 toddlers attended during the year. Bronchial catarrh, threadworms and impetigo were the chief complaints. One case of mild rickets was seen, and one case of malnutrition.

21 nursing and 6 expectant mothers were seen, the former were given simple tonics and aperients, the latter were referred to Newport Ante-natal Clinic.

Thanks are due to several ladies of the local Infant Welfare Committee for their regular attendance and help throughout the year.

CALDICOT.—This Clinic is held weekly and is a Centre for mothers and babies from Caldicot and the surrounding rural district.

The figures for 1930 show an increase all round compared with 1929—163 on register at end of year, instead of 152; and 1574 re-visits compared with 1045. The average attendance was 33 per session compared with 23 the previous year.

Breast-feeding showed a slight increase, as did also breast and artificial feeding, and there was a corresponding drop in the number of babies fed on artificial foods only, a very satisfactory feature.

As usual bronchial catarrh was the chief ailment among the babies. 8 cases of eczema attended, 4 being breast-fed.

The country round Caldicot is low-lying and rather damp, and bronchial catarrh is very prevalent in winter.

Two sets of twins attended and made good progress, 3 cases of mild rickets were seen.

There were no cases of mal-nourishment.

62 toddlers attended, being brought chiefly on account of enlarged tonsils and adenoids, bronchial catarrh, impetigo or threadworms. Two cases of the 62, roughly 3 per cent., were under-nourished.

Six expectant mothers were referred to Chepstow Ante-natal Clinic.

Of the 30 nursing mothers who attended, none showed evidence of malnutrition.

The amount of free food given away was a few shillings over last year's figures, this is very satisfactory when one considers that the attendances were larger this year.

Thanks are due to several ladies of the local Infant Welfare Committee who attend regularly and render valuable assistance in the work of the Clinic.

NEWPORT.—During the year 1930 the Clinic was held on alternate Wednesday afternoons and was a Centre for mothers and babies from the Gaer, Liswerry and Maesglas. A special Clinic for Malpas district was opened in January, 1930.

As Newport Clinic statistics for 1928 included Malpas area, a comparison of this year's figures with last is not a reliable judge of progress. The average attendance per session was 24. Breast-feeding (37 per cent.) was low, but breast and artificially fed cases (31 per cent.) consisted mainly of babies breast-fed till 7 months and then given supplementary feeds of cows' or dried milk.

Free milk and food given away exceeded last year's figure chiefly on account of greater distress in Maesglas area, due to irregular work at the Docks.

The babies on the whole were healthy. Two sets of twins attended regularly and did well. One birth palsy was sent to the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital and four cases of bowing of legs were seen at the Orthopædic Clinic and attended thereafter for splinting and massage.

Six expectant mothers attended and were referred to the Ante-natal Clinic. Simple tonic mixtures and aperients were given to nursing mothers. There was no evidence of malnutrition among the mothers, though several from Maesglas area showed lactational deficiency.

78 toddlers attended, being brought chiefly on account of bronchial catarrh, enlarged tonsils and adenoids, or threadworms. Six per cent. of the toddlers showed evidence of malnutrition, 13 per cent. had threadworms. Mothers seem very ignorant about the mode of transmission of, and the preventive measures to be taken against these parasites. Very often several members of a family are affected at the same time, and the children's nutrition and general well-being is definitely interfered with.

MALPAS.—This Centre was opened in January, 1930, with the object of providing for the needs of mothers and babies of Malpas and district. Previously the Clinic was held in Stanley Road premises, Newport, but as Malpas grew on the outskirts the mothers began to feel the distance into Newport too long, and there was a request for a more local Centre.

The Clinic is held on alternate Thursday mornings and, so far, the attendance has been very satisfactory and quite justifies the new arrangements.

During the year, 111 new cases attended. There were 700 re-visits and the average attendance was 31.19 per session.

The percentage of breast-fed babies is smaller than one would expect in an area where the fathers are nearly all in regular work, and the mothers can therefore get plenty of extra nourishment. The low figure is accounted for by the fact that many of the babies were on cows' or dried milk when brought to the Clinic.

The babies were a healthy lot, bronchial catarrh was the chief ailment. Three cases of mild rickets and 1 flat foot were referred to the Orthopædic Clinic and were recommended massage and suitable appliances. One pair of twins attended and did well.

63 toddlers attended. Bronchial catarrh, threadworms and enlarged tonsils and adenoids were the chief ailments. No cases of malnutrition were seen.

20 nursing and 4 expectant mothers attended. No cases of malnutrition were noticed among the mothers but 12 showed lactational deficiency. The expectant mothers were referred to the Ante-natal Clinic at Newport.

5.—Dr. ANNIE C. ROBERTS, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

METHODS OF FEEDING.

		Breast-fed.	Breast and Bottle.	Bottle fed.
Aberbargoed	...	46%	28%	26%
New Tredegar	...	54.5%	24.5%	21%

ABERBARGOED CENTRE.—The number of new cases attending is higher than in 1930, but the average attendance has fallen about 7 per cent. This is due to the fact that about a quarter of the cases attending come from the Markham area, and therefore by reason of the distance they cannot attend so regularly as those who live in Aberbargoed.

Although the amount of free food given is less than in 1929, it is still very high as unemployment is very marked in this area. Also owing to debility and an extreme degree of malnutrition, free food has had to be supplied to many children between the ages of one and three.

A good many drugs are prescribed here, especially laxatives for the mother and ointments for skin and chest complaints in the infants.

A large number of expectant mothers attended the Clinic. In the earlier months of pregnancy these were treated, but the majority were referred at once to the Ante-natal Clinic for the area.

Children under 1 year are on the whole well nourished but malnutrition is a common occurrence among the children between the ages of 1 and 2.

The majority of the mothers suffer to a slight extent from under-nourishment, but there are only a few cases where it is very marked.

A very large number of toddlers attend this Clinic, the number of children over the age of one on the register for 1930 being 142. Practically none of these are new cases, but are children whose mothers still continue to bring them after the age of one, or who have transferred from one Clinic to another.

The parents here are now beginning to realise the value of dental treatment, and a very large number of children under the age of five are referred for extractions.

There is a very high percentage of dental caries and pyorrhœa among the nursing and expectant mothers, but it is much more difficult to persuade them to have treatment done for themselves than it is to get their consent for treatment for their children. Many school children attend to ask for appointments for teeth, eyes and tonsils and adenoids.

NEW TREDEGAR CENTRE.—The number of names on the register was slightly higher than in 1929, and the average attendance was considerably higher having risen from 25 to 38. This higher attendance is probably due to the fact that as many more mothers were receiving free food for their babies they considered it judicious to attend regularly.

The amount of free food given in 1930 was more than double that in 1929, the latter being fairly low. Owing to the stoppage of work in the pits above New Tredegar most of the men are now unemployed or on very low wages.

A good many drugs are prescribed here, laxatives for the mothers and ointments for the children being the most common.

The Ante-natal Clinic for the area is now held at New Tredegar and most expectant mothers are sent there by the midwives, but in 1930, twenty-seven mothers attended first at the Infant Welfare session and a few were given treatment in the earlier months of pregnancy.

There were a good many cases of malnutrition amongst the children but it is not so marked here as at Aberbargoed. Breast-feeding figures this year are lower owing to malnutrition of the mothers but most of those who receive free food in the later months of pregnancy are able to breast-feed their babies.

64 children over the age of one year attended the Centre. A good many of these aged 1-2 are under-nourished, but the nutrition of children above the age of two is satisfactory.

Umbilical sepsis is very rarely seen now but much too high a number of babies have to be treated at both Clinics from umbilical protrusion or hernia.

6.—Dr. P. R. WHITAKER, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

FEEDING OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Blackwood	Usk	Oakdale	Crumlin	Rogerstone
	%	%	%	%	%
Breast-fed	61	60	61	56	42
Breast and Artificially fed	14.6	27	15	7	15
Artificially fed ...	24.4	13	24	37	43

Average percentage of breast-feeding over all Centres:—

1927	...	59%
1928	...	64%
1929	...	63%
1930	...	56%

BLACKWOOD CENTRE.—The average attendance of infants at each session during the year, shows an increase, being 63 as compared with 60.8 during 1929, but the number on the register at the end of the year was 301, a decrease of 19 from the previous year, yet the total attendances have risen from 1399 to 1512, indicating regularity of attendance.

The percentage of breast-feeding shows a slight increase, that of artificial feeding shows a decrease, with a corresponding increase in the number of assisted breast-fed babies.

As there are no facilities for Ante-natal work, expectant mothers attend here for advice, and are referred to Oakdale for routine and special examinations. During the year 85 cases attended, 47 being new cases, a decrease on last year's number.

USK.—The number of infants on the register at the end of the year was 68, while the average attendance per session was 13.6. This is the highest figure for this Clinic so far. The total attendances have risen from 255 in 1927 to 329 for the present year. The percentage of breast-fed babies shows an increase of 9 per cent., which is encouraging in view of the comparatively low figure for this area, and at a time when the percentage is lower than it has been for the past four years.

As the present premises have been rendered unsatisfactory due to the enlargement of the Central Hall at the expense of the Doctor's room, we hope to find new and more suitable premises early in the new year.

The mothers at this Clinic are showing a much more lively interest in the Clinic, due, to a large extent, to the tact and energy of the Health Visitor. The mothers bring their babies regularly for advice, but there is still some difficulty in persuading them to weigh their babies "undressed." Some would weigh them with all their clothes on, including boots.

The Ante-natal work is progressing slowly, about 6 new cases attended and 7 re-visited.

OAKDALE.—The average attendance at this Clinic, which is only a half-day session, is excellent, almost more than is possible to deal with satisfactorily. They attend very regularly, and it has been found necessary to limit visits to the Doctor strictly to "once a month," unless for some special reason the Health visitor considers an extra examination necessary.

The total attendances of infants during the year was 1020, corresponding to an average per session of 42, as compared with 31.7 in 1929, and 26.6 in 1927.

The percentage of breast-feeding shows a disappointing decrease, having fallen by 10 per cent. This is inevitable under the present trade depression and unemployment.

CRUMLIN.—This Centre is still very satisfactory. the average attendance showed a slight increase, being 28 per session as against 27 last year.

Total attendances were 1330, showing an increase of 27.

The mothers here take a great interest in the progress of their children, and bring them regularly for advice. The percentage of breast-fed babies again shows a decrease, having fallen to 56 per cent. Artificial feeding shows a corresponding increase, and the amount of assisted free-milk almost a third higher than last year.

ROGERSTONE.—This is a half-day Centre, and is always well attended. The average attendance per session shows an increase, having risen from 30.38 in 1929, to 35.76 in 1930. The number on the register was 134 as against 130 last year.

Ante-natal cases are referred to the Newport Clinic, so the total attendances show a slight decrease. 12 cases attended and were referred to the Ante-natal Centre when necessary, 7 being new cases.

The percentage of breast-feeding shows a marked decrease, in fact the figure for artificial feeding exceeds that of breast by 1 per cent. This is the only Clinic that shows such a high percentage of artificial feeding. This is disappointing, for last year there was a decided improvement, but as most people have been on very low wages for some time, the effects are obviously beginning to tell on the nursing mothers.

GENERAL.—The attendance at the various Centres during the year shows an all round increase, most marked in the Oakdale and Usk areas. Comparing the numbers for the various Clinics during the past 4 years shows those at Blackwood and Oakdale have increased by 23 and 16 respectively per session.

The percentage of breast-fed babies has dropped considerably. The average figures for all Centres, vide supra. being only 56 per cent., the lowest yet recorded, and being 3 per cent. lower than the figures for 1927 which followed on the General Strike.

An indication, also, of the falling off of breast-feeding, is shown by the number of mothers showing lactational deficiency, a number which is increasing almost every 6-12 months.

There are two exceptions to this "drop," *i.e.*, at Blackwood and at Usk, both of which show a slight increase.

Owing to the persistent and increasing unemployment the amount of free foods given at the Centres has increased over all the areas. This is an inevitable consequence of the depressed industrial conditions prevailing throughout the County. It is so disappointing to find one's considered advice on suitable diet, etc., being "turned down" as absolutely without the bounds of possibility.

Drugs supplied are in the form of simple tonics, aperients or cough mixtures, etc.

There is still definite evidence of under-nourishment among the mothers especially, and, as above stated, there is an ever-increasing number in the need of assisted milk supply.

The number of "toddlers" attending the Centres is increasing, especially in the Rogerstone and Blackwood areas. Quite a large number of children between the years 1-2 attend the Clinics and these have been included as "toddlers."

Of these toddlers, some 5 per cent. showed deficient nutrition. There seems to be a marked increase in the number of cases of rickets, and a gross type of rickets. There is not much evidence of malnutrition among infants, as their progress is supervised by the Centres.

During the year there were very many more applications for dental treatment, both amongst toddlers and mothers. All expectant mothers have been advised to have their teeth attended to as early as possible in their pregnancies. The obvious improvement in the general health of those who avail themselves of this treatment is an advertisement in itself.

7.—Dr. TERESA M. O'RIORDAN, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

DETAILS OF INFANT FEEDING.

	Abertysswg
Breast-fed	56%
Breast and Artificially fed	20%
Artificially fed	24%

ABERTYSSWG CENTRE.—There is an increase in the number of infants attending the Centre this year. The average attendance at each session was higher, being 21.31 as compared with 15.9 the previous year. The total attendance is 1023 compared with 765 in 1929.

The percentage of breast-fed babies was 56 per cent., a decrease on the 1929 figure which was 60 per cent. The percentage of breast and artificially fed is also slightly lower, and the percentage of artificially fed infants has advanced from 15 to 24 per cent. Every endeavour is made at the Centre, both by nurse and doctor, to encourage the mothers to breast-feed their babies up to the full period of nine months. Unfortunately many mothers have weaned their babies, partially or wholly, before they bring them to the Centre. In some cases this has been due to the ill health of the mother, but in other cases the mother has not persevered.

There is a marked increase in the attendance of nursing and expectant mothers. The majority of mothers attending the Clinic do so regularly every week. The expectant mothers are advised to attend the Ante-natal Centre, which is held at Rhymney once every month, these mothers like to come to the Infant Welfare Centre as well.

There is an increase in the amount of free food given at the Centre this year. This is due to the industrial conditions which do not seem to have improved as far as many mothers attending the Centre are concerned. All cases requiring assistance are fully investigated. Those requiring help are given either fresh milk or foods, either for themselves or their babies.

Only the very simplest drugs are prescribed for mothers or infants at the Centre. The value of diet, exercise and rest is carefully explained to the nursing and expectant mothers. The mothers are generally willing and anxious to follow this advice.

A few mothers attending the Centre were suffering from undernourishment, but in all cases were assisted by suitable foods or fresh milk.

The mothers are encouraged to bring their toddlers, *i.e.*, children between 2 and 5 years, to the Centre. Our efforts are not always successful. The mother's whole attention is given to the baby, who must be undressed and dressed. She does not always find it easy to look after a toddler as well. The difficulty is greater at this Centre where only one Health Visitor is in charge. Yet in spite of all difficulties there is an increase in the number attending. The value of their attendance is pointed out to the mother. Advice is given *re* their diet and rest, factors so important at this stage of their life.

The Health Visitor in charge of the Centre has been largely responsible for its success. Her good work, both at the Centre and in the district, has helped the mothers considerably, and mainly through her enthusiasm and help the mothers have learnt to appreciate this service.

8.—Dr. WM. BOWEN OWEN, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

METHOD OF FEEDING OF INFANTS.

Breast	...	...	...	47.6%
Breast and Artificial	...	...	...	36.4%
Artificial	...	...	...	16%

RISCA CENTRE.—There was a marked increase in the attendance at this Centre during the year under review. The average per session was 73.5, as compared with 58.8 in 1929.

In reviewing the health and general condition of the children attending it was found that 53 per cent. were in good condition, while 47 per cent. were not up to standard. It would appear that the percentage not up to standard is alarmingly high. The fact is that the delicate infants and young children make more use of the Clinic than do the healthy ones.

Mothers who do not breast-feed their infants quite successfully are taught to assist the breast-feeding by means of complementary feeds. This method is usually successful, and so, instead of bringing up her baby on artificial milk, the mother continues breast-feeding, to her own and her baby's benefit.

"Toddlers."—The number of toddlers attending the Clinic is increasing. The mothers in the district are beginning to realize that much good can come from having their little ones occasionally inspected by a Doctor.

Dental caries, worms, enlarged tonsils, squint, otorrhoea and marked anæmia following illness were treated. One case of congenital dislocation of the hip was discovered, and a diphtheria germ carrier was found. A few toddlers were referred to the Tonsil and Adenoid Clinic for operation. The after results are encouraging.

Nursing Mothers.—One hundred and six attendances were made by nursing mothers desirous of advice and treatment.

Expectant Mothers.—One hundred and seventeen attendances were made by expectant mothers. Ante-natal examinations were made when possible, and urine examination was carried out as routine. Dental treatment was accepted by many, while free milk was supplied to necessitous women.

Free foods to the value of £41 were supplied during the year, as compared with £60 worth in 1929.

Such drugs as expectorants, aperients and tonics continue to be used in the Clinic. In these days when so many unemployed have no Doctor, the provision of these drugs to infants especially are a great boon, and certainly prevent a deal of suffering.

In view of the increased attendance at the Centre, the premises are often taxed to the utmost, and the work is carried on under difficulty.

I have to express my indebtedness to the Nursing Staff whose cheerfulness and tact have made the machine to run smoothly throughout the year.

Voluntary helpers continue faithful in their attendance, and valuable in the service they render.

9.—Dr. WM. PANES, Assistant Medical Officer, Monmouthshire County Council.

THE METHODS OF FEEDING INFANTS UP TO NINE MONTHS OF AGE :

Breast-fed	...	...	36.8%
Breast and artificially fed	...	...	8.7%
Artificially fed	...	...	54.5%

CWM CENTRE.—These figures, compared with those for 1929, show a fall of 12.2 per cent. in the number of infants fed wholly on the breast, and a fall of 3.3 per cent. on those fed on the breast combined with artificial feeding.

The diet of children over 9 months of age consisted chiefly of milk and milk foods, augmented by other foods with a high vitamin content. Foods rich in vitamins were advocated because of their potency in stimulating growth and bone formation.

The complaints for which children were treated were chiefly those affecting the gastrointestinal and respiratory systems. The majority of the complaints affecting the gastrointestinal tract respond to judicious feeding.

The drugs prescribed were chiefly aperients, simple expectorant mixtures and ointments.

Attendances.—Infants.—A total of 1758 attendances were made during the year, and there were 143 new cases. The average attendance per session was 36.62.

The number of "toddlers" attending the Clinic for the first time was 23.

Nursing Mothers.—Nursing mothers received treatment and advice in 31 cases, the chief ailments being constipation, anæmia, debility and dental caries.

Expectant Mothers.—Seven expectant mothers visited the Clinic during the year. Ante-natal work is carried on to a very limited extent, the requirements of the district in this respect being supplied by the Ante-natal Clinics held at Ebbw Vale.

Free food was supplied to the value of £38 4s. 9d. as compared with £37 10s. 9d. during 1929.

10.—DR. R. J. S. VERITY, Medical Officer of Health, Abersychan Urban District Council.

Details of Feeding Infants.

	Abersychan	Garndiffaith	Pontnewynydd
Breast-fed	29	30	124
Dried Milk	122	138	81
Cows' Milk	6	—	3
Patent Foods	4	—	10
Breast and Cows' Milk ...	—	—	4

ABERSYCHAN CENTRE.—This Centre is making steady progress. There has been an advance in the attendance at the Centre. Very little food is given free. There has been no increase in last year's figures. Not very many drugs are prescribed. Ante-natal cases are chiefly referred to the Ante-natal Clinic. Under-nourishment of mothers or infants has not been noticeable. 17 toddlers attended, none being undernourished.

GARNDIFFAITH CENTRE.—There was an increase in the number of children attending the Centre. The average attendance also showed an increase. Very little food was given free during the year, most mothers being able to pay for a portion. There was practically no increase on last year's figures. Not very many drugs have been prescribed during the year. Five expectant mothers attended the Centre and were referred to the Ante-natal Clinic. Under-nourishment of mothers or infants attending the Centre was not noticeable. Some 5 toddlers attended. There were no signs of under-nourishment. The Centre is still progressing and is appreciated by the mothers.

PONTNEWYNYDD CENTRE.—The Centre is still making progress and is very well attended. Not very much food is given free, mothers paying for a portion; the figures are much the same as last year. Not very many drugs are prescribed. All Ante-natal cases were referred to the Ante-natal Clinic. Under-nourishment of mothers was not noticeable during the year. 26 toddlers attended, none being under-nourished.

GENERAL.—There has been an increase in the number of children attending the Centres. The mothers attend regularly and appreciate the work done, the directions given being carried out conscientiously, with the result that the babies have made satisfactory progress.

The district is very fortunate in its Health Visitors; the work is done well and highly valued.

11.—Dr. J. REYNOLDS, Medical Officer of Health, Blaenavon Urban District Council.

Details of Methods of Feeding Infants—

Breast-fed	...	...	86	Patent Foods	...	...	17
Dried Milks	...	...	66	Cows' Milk	...	...	13
Breast and Artificial	...	...	20				

The attendance at the Clinic has increased from 36.02 in 1929 to 41.66 per session during the year under review.

Foods are given free in necessitous cases.

Drugs are prescribed when necessary, but no dispensing is done at the Clinic.

There is no Ante-natal work at this Centre, a special session being held in Blaenavon once a month.

There is evidence of some mothers and children being under-nourished.

Toddlers constitute a fair proportion of the children attending the Centre; there is some evidence of under-nourishment.

12.—Dr. T. L. DRAPES, Medical Officer of Health, Chepstow Urban and Rural Districts.

CHEPSTOW CENTRE.—The number of infants on the register at the end of the year was 232. The total number of attendances during the year was 1,973, of which 78 were new cases. The average attendance at each session was 41.10. This number is somewhat smaller than some years ago, due to the transference of a certain number of rural cases to the Caldicot Centre.

The total attendances of nursing mothers was 104, including 17 new cases. This is about the same as in previous years. A detailed summary of children's ailments is appended. It calls for no special comment. The vast proportion of infants in need of medical treatment were suffering from either bronchitis, bronchial catarrh or allied conditions, or from disorders of digestion. Breast-feeding is advocated in all cases. This is hardly necessary, because, probably on account of the present economic conditions, nearly all mothers appear to be genuinely anxious to nurse their infants. In those cases in which breast-feeding is impossible from the beginning, or in which the milk supply fails after a longer or shorter interval, the most satisfactory substitute has been found to be one of the dried milks on the market.

There is a large amount of unemployment in the district and free foods have been distributed to almost the same extent as last year. Each case is investigated and eligibility for free food depends on the weekly income entering the house and the number of inmates. In some cases the distribution of free food is arranged in conjunction with the Public Assistance Officer. Mothers can obtain proprietary foods at cost price, which is a great boon.

Drugs are not prescribed to any great extent. A few simple mixtures are kept in stock, chiefly for bronchial and digestive disorders, and also a few simple ointments. Mothers can obtain preparations such as Virol, Roboline, Ostelin at cost price.

There have been very few cases of under-nourishment, either in the case of mothers or infants, and the proportion of "toddlers" who attend is small.

I should like to express my thanks to the Health Visitors, upon whom the greater amount of the routine work falls, and also to the Hon. Secretary, who rarely fails to attend to do the clerical work.

13.—Dr. F. M. FONSECA, Medical Officer of Health, Ebbw Vale Urban District Council.

EBBW VALE CENTRE.—

Feeding of infants under 12 months of age—

Breast-fed	...	...	224	Dried Milks	...	...	24
Breast and Bottle	...	...	26	Patent Foods	...	...	44
Cows' Milk	...	...	28				

There has been an advance in the attendances during the year.

The distribution of free food is only supplied at the public expense after strict enquiry of the actual necessities of the cases. There has been an increase, due to unemployment.

The drugs at the disposal of the Centre are used as far as practicable. In cases which require closer observation and further treatment than the weekly meetings permit, parents are advised to consult their own medical attendant.

The Ante-natal Clinic established last year has made considerable progress, as the attendances have increased and is increasing, which is evidence of the popularity of this Clinic.

The number of under-nourished mothers or infants attending the Centre is not noticeable to the extent as might be expected after the prolonged depression. Those affected are attributable to shortage of employment in the coalfield area.

Very few toddlers between the ages of two and five years attend the Centre, and up to the present, only a small proportion show any evidence of being under-nourished.

The Ante-natal work (which is held for half a day on the third Tuesday of each month) has increased considerably, as mentioned above. In view of this a full day's session might have to be considered at some future time.

14.—Dr. W. H. WILLIAMS, Medical Officer of Health, Monmouth Urban and Rural Districts.

MONMOUTH CENTRE.—

METHODS OF FEEDING INFANTS.

In nearly every case the new-born infant has been breast-fed, and when the mother's milk has had to be supplemented or replaced, cows' milk, or one of the dried milks, has been used.

There has been a steady increase of work at the Centre since its foundation and this increase has been maintained during the year.

The extent to which foods are given free has still been kept at a low figure. A local Committee, under the chairmanship of Captain Twiston Davies, meets monthly and investigates all the claims for free food.

A considerable amount of dispensing of medicines has been done, as may be gathered from the ailments treated, mentioned above.

Ante-natal Work.—This branch of the Centre is undertaken by Dr. Mary Scott, who visits the Centre once monthly.

Under-nourishment of infants and mothers has not been observed during the year, and this also applies to the older children (two to five years), who are brought up frequently for advice and treatment.

The local interest in the Centre continues. At each session, in addition to the Medical Officer and Nurse in attendance, there are always present the Secretary, two voluntary workers and one V.A.D. Nurse, who assist in the care of the babies and mothers.

15.—Dr. R. V. de A. REDWOOD, Medical Officer of Health, Rhymney Urban District.

DETAILS OF METHODS OF FEEDING INFANTS—

Breast-fed	...	...	...	86
Breast and Dried Milk Foods	...	...	...	22
Dried Milk Food	...	...	...	40

The average attendance of infants for 1930 was a little less than 1929. 1929 figures were a little more than 1928.

The attendances of nursing mothers show an increase on 1929 and also on 1928.

The amount of free food given was about the same as last year, the amount of unemployment in the district being about the same.

A few drugs are given, and a few simple ointments; other medicines and drugs are obtained by the mothers at their respective surgeries. Much dispensing would seriously interfere with the other work of the clinic.

During 1930 a separate clinic for expectant mothers was held once a month; a few women still come to the Child Welfare Clinic, and are referred to the next Ante-natal Clinic.

Some cases of under-nourishment are shown by the amount of free food given.

Few toddlers (two to five) attend, as tots are in the habit of going to the surgeries of their own doctors. A few cases of under-nourishment, mostly due to Congenital Debility or illness have attended.

All cases of infants or mothers, when necessary, are referred to the Rhymney Cottage Hospital for further examinations; two minor operations were necessary. Eight circumcisions. Abscess of breast—three admitted and incised. Orthopædic cases were referred to Mr. A. Rocyn Jones and seen by appointment.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE—

13 deaths under 1 year during 1930.

13 deaths under 1 year during 1929.

178 births during 1930 (88 males, 90 females).

205 births during 1929 (114 males, 91 females).

Infantile death-rate for 1930 (rate per 1,000 births) is 73, which is very satisfactory. Infantile death-rate for 1929 was 63.4.

The difference between the rates for 1930 and 1929 is accounted for by there being 27 fewer births in 1930.

It is very satisfactory that the improvement in this previously unsatisfactory death-rate is being maintained.

16.—Dr. E. T. H. DAVIES, Medical Officer of Health, Tredegar Urban District.

TREDEGAR CENTRE.—Details of Feeding Infants—

Breast-fed	...	142	Cows' Milk	...	13
Dried Milks	...	62	Breast and Tinned	...	15
Tinned Milk	...	15	Breast and Cows' Milk	...	10
Breast and Dried Milk	...	4	Patent Foods	...	2

17.—Dr. GUY W. PARRY, Abergavenny.

ABERGAVENNY CENTRE.—This Centre was open on market days each week during 1930 as before.

The total attendances rose from 1,242 in 1929, to 1,674, and the average per session from 26 to 33. It was gratifying to see many new cases.

The methods of feeding remained much the same, and mothers are appreciating the value of breast-feeding and are really making efforts to use this method as much as possible. Scarcely any free food is given, but chiefly advice on how to feed themselves and their babies is tendered to mothers.

As before pulmonary and mild gastro intestinal complaints were commonest though there were seen a large number of skin eruptions, chiefly impetigo and seborrhœic dermatitis. These have been treated with simple ointments and chiefly by instruction in how to dress them. I am much indebted to the nurses for valuable help in this. The only other drugs used were Hyd. c Cret and the cough mixture.

Very little under-nourishment is seen and that only among patients from the districts verging on the industrial area. This malnutrition is not seen among the toddlers, of whom quite a large number use the Clinic, but among babies under one year.

18.—Dr. E. M. GRIFFITH, Medical Officer of Health, Abercarn Urban District.

FEEDING OF INFANTS.

Breast-fed	...	161	Ambrosia	...	21
Ostermilk	...	17	Cows' Milk	...	55

ABERCARN CENTRE.—During the year 1930 this Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre continued to keep up its numbers fairly well.

I regret to say that unemployment has been on a large scale throughout 1930, with the result that it has been necessary to supply large quantities of food free.

We have never prescribed drugs to any large extent at this Centre, and less than ever in 1930.

There have been few cases of under-nourishment in infants, but I regret to say numerous cases have been seen amongst mothers and these have been attended to.

In conclusion, I would like to state that this Centre owes its success very largely to the continued devotion and the work of the Health Visitors, i.e., Nurse Lord and Nurse James—these two ladies together with the Voluntary Lady Workers have done excellently.

19.—Dr. T. B. SMITH, Medical Officer of Health, Abertillery Urban District.

REPORT ON WORK OF ABERTILLERY, LLANHILLETH AND SIX BELLS CENTRES.

CENTRE	INFANTS					NURSING MOTHERS			EXPECTANT MOTHERS		
	No. of Infants on Register 31st Dec., 1930	No. of New Cases which attended during year	No. of Re-visits	Total No. of Visits	Average attendance per session	New Cases	Re-visits	Total	New Cases	Re-visits	Total
Abertillery ...	674	328	4019	4347	90.56	80	70	150	79	45	124
Llanhilleth ...	412	226	2279	2505	53.29	67	162	229	51	90	141
Six Bells ...	354	206	2142	2348	48.91	43	102	145	47	56	103

A comparison of this table with the same table printed in the reports of previous years shows that the attendances at the Centres throughout the area are being well sustained, thus showing the great appreciation in which this work is held by the community.

Year	Population	No. of Births	Birth Rate	Deaths under one year of age	Infantile Mortality	Deaths from Puerperal Fever	Deaths from Disease and Accidents of Parturition
1913	38,700	1,482	38.2	160	107.9	0	2
1916	39,166	1,073	27.3	100	93.1	2	4
1919	44,554	1,037	23.2	104	100.2	3	5
1922	40,170	976	24.2	89	91.8	2	1
1925	39,260	768	19.5	63	82.0	1	1
1928	32,840	621	17.3	44	70.8	1	2
1929	32,840	595	18.1	41	68.9	1	3
1930	32,840	600	18.2	34	56.6	1	1

The above table shows the falling in the number of births in specified years, and also the marked fall in the Infantile Mortality Rate.

The details of ailments found in mothers and children examined at the Centres is much the same as in previous years.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Three cases were notified, two made a complete recovery, and in the other case there was corneal ulceration affecting one eye. This case is under observation and is gradually improving.

Measles.—There was almost a complete absence of Measles in young children.

Whooping Cough.—There were several cases of severe Whooping Cough in infants during the year, two of those cases proved fatal.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis.—The incidence of this disease in infants has declined considerably in recent years. Most of the cases were of a mild nature. Two deaths occurred in infants under one year of age.

Rickets.—Eight cases of this disease were diagnosed at the various Clinics. Appropriate advice and treatment were given. One case was a typical case of acute rickets occurring in a well-to-do family whose child had been fed on Pasteurised Milk.

Since the establishment of Ante-natal Centres most of the expectant mothers are now referred to those Clinics.

Dried Milk foods and fresh milk are supplied on application according to income scale.

Infants are brought regularly to the various Clinics by the mothers, and the attendance up to 18 months of age is very good. The attendance of toddlers 2-5 years of age is not as it should be. In my opinion special Clinic days should be set aside for toddlers.

Owing to the younger age at which children are admitted to school, quite a fair proportion of children 3 to 5 years of age now attend the School Clinic.

Several "toddlers" brought to the Clinic were suffering from the after effects of Pneumonia and fresh milk was supplied in those cases with marked improvement.

Number of cases referred for Dental Treatment.				Infants.	Mothers.
Abertillery Infant Welfare Centre ...	...	...	...	1	4
Llanhilleth Infant Welfare Centre ...	...	...	...	3	37
Six Bells Infant Welfare Centre ...	...	...	...	2	4

The Dental Treatment for Mothers is much appreciated.

Number and type of Orthopædic Cases.				Referred to Consultant Surgeon.	Examined by Consultant Surgeon.
Abertillery I.W.C.—					
Cervical rib, right side	...	...	...	1	1
Severe recurvatum, left leg	...	...	...	1	—
Left Torticollis	...	...	...	1	—
Pes Planus	...	...	...	1	1
Talipes Varus	...	...	...	1	1
Calcaneus deformity of left foot	...	...	...	1	1
Llanhilleth I.W.C.—					
Atrophy muscles	...	...	...	1	1
Six Bells I.W.C.—					
Talipes Valgus	...	...	...	1	1

Two cases were admitted to the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital during the year.

K.—SALE OF INFANT FOODS, &c., AT THE CENTRES.

The facilities for the purchase at the Infant Welfare Centres of infant foods, etc., continue to be of advantage to the mothers attending the Centres.

The wages earned by many of the men employed in the works and collieries of the County are still very low, and unemployment is prevalent throughout the County. The service for the provision of infant foods at a little over cost price, therefore, meets a real necessity.

Dried milks, malt extracts and other infant foods to the value of £6,421 7s. 7d., were purchased for sale at the Centres during the year.

A small sum is added to the cost price of the artificial foods sold at the Centres, and this in some measure sets off the loss incurred on the articles given gratis. At a few of the Centres there are voluntary funds, out of which foods are given free to mothers who do not come within the regulations governing the County Scheme.

The Health Visitors are instructed to take care that only those mothers who regularly attend with their babies at the Centres, and who cannot pay the prevailing high prices, are served with the foods.

In cases where the income to the home is below the scale fixed by the County Council, infants' foods can be obtained either free of cost, or at half cost. The depression in the coal-producing districts during the year caused a continued demand for this assistance, and goods to the value of £4,787 2s. 6d. were given for necessitous expectant and nursing mothers and infants. This amount included £2,366 6s. 8d. paid for fresh milk.

The issue of free fresh and dried milk is still very large, as will be observed from the following table—

1919	...	...	...	...	£140 15 0	1925	...	...	...	...	£1,766 14 0
1920	...	...	...	...	£537 18 11	1926	...	...	...	...	£2,469 7 6
1921	...	...	...	...	£5,984 0 0	1927	...	...	...	...	£2,817 18 4
(Coal Stoppage: Dinners also given).						1928	...	...	...	...	£3,844 1 1
1922	...	...	...	...	£2,232 14 3	1929	...	...	...	...	£5,092 18 8
1923	...	...	...	...	£1,548 6 7	1930	...	...	...	...	£4,787 2 6
1924	...	...	...	...	£1,170 3 8						

All applications for free food are decided upon the income going into the home in accordance with a scale fixed by the County Council and demanded by the Ministry of Health.

L.—INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

The following table gives particulars of the training, etc., of the Midwives upon the County Roll at the 31st December, in each year from 1912 to 1930:—

Year	Number Literate	Number Illiterate	Total No. on Roll	No. holding C.M.B. Certificate	No. holding other Certificates	No. untrained but registered	No. over 60 years of age
1930	237	4	241	215	—	26	35
1929	245	4	249	222	—	27	35
1928	238	4	242	211	—	31	40
1927	248	5	253	219	—	34	36
1926	243	5	248	211	—	37	32
1925	241	7	248	208	—	40	35
1924	242	11	253	203	—	50	38
1923	231	14	245	190	—	55	42
1922	224	16	242	178	—	64	49
1921	214	18	232	168	—	68	38
1920	211	22	233	160	—	73	48
1919	212	25	237	159	—	78	53
1918	184	31	215	123	—	92	49
1917	203	37	240	131	1	108	58
1916	214	37	251	135	4	112	58
1915	208	42	250	117	4	129	73
1914	207	53	260	100	6	154	111
1913	194	59	253	89	6	158	87
1912	191	62	253	87	5	161	71

It will be observed that the number of untrained midwives, *i.e.*, those placed upon the roll by virtue of their being in practice prior to the year 1901, is decreasing every year, and there are only 23 practising (3 are on Roll but not practising); 3 of them are illiterate.

We are gradually reaching the realisation of the ideal of a skilled midwifery service. The period of training of midwives has been extended from 6 to 12 months and a better educated type of woman is taking up the work.

The midwife has an important part in the work of Maternity and Child Welfare, and her assistance in this work is invaluable, apart from her responsibilities with regard to the hygienic conditions of the home. She can also by her suggestion of the need for Ante-natal measures, put the patient in touch with the necessary medical advice, either through the family doctor or the County Ante-natal Clinics.

After the birth of the child there is, of course, the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre which can be recommended to the mothers for advice upon the modern methods of infant welfare.

The co-operation of the midwife with the Maternity and Child Welfare Service is heartily welcomed, and it is gratifying to record that the number who realise the benefit that can accrue to expectant and nursing mothers through attendance at the Centres is increasing year by year.

The total number of names removed from the Midwives' Roll during 1930, was 15; 12 through removal from County, 1 through death, 1 through ill-health, and 1 through ill-health of husband.

The total number of visits paid to midwives in the Urban and Industrial Areas by Mrs. Dorè, the Inspectress of Midwives and by Nurse Olwen Griffiths in the Rural Areas was 1,302 visits and 868 examinations. During the visits the following information regarding the midwives was elicited :—

Not at home	...	...	...	383
Ill	...	...	...	12
Not commenced practising	...	...	...	6
Not working at the time	...	...	...	27
Away nursing private cases	...	...	...	3
Left the County	...	...	...	1
Wishes to resign	...	...	...	1
Does not intend to practise	...	...	...	1

In 18 instances unsatisfactory conditions were found, viz. :—

Cannot take pulse and temperature	...	...	...	11
Cannot chart pulse and temperature...	...	...	...	3
Bag of appliances not satisfactory	...	...	...	1
Case Book not up-to-date	...	...	...	1
Did not enter pulse and temperature	...	...	...	1
Lining of Bag soiled	...	...	...	1

There are upon the County Roll two midwives who cannot take pulse and temperature, one who can take but cannot chart pulse and temperature, and one who cannot take pulse.

Midwifery scholarships are provided by the Education Committee as in previous years. (See Section L.).

1,635 (1751 reasons) notifications of sending for medical aid, and 117 cases of still-birth, were received from midwives during the year.

Also 8 notifications of deaths of mothers, 17 notifications of children dying a few hours after birth, 40 notifications of artificial feeding, 12 notifications from midwives who were liable to be a source of infection, and 13 notifications of having laid out a dead body.

The reasons given in sending for medical aid were as follows :—

High temperature	...	...	...	38
Prolonged and difficult labour	...	...	...	573
Obstructed labour	...	...	...	31
Premature birth	...	...	...	44
Premature labour	...	...	...	11
Retained placenta	...	...	...	58
Prolapse of cord	...	...	...	6

Prolapse of uterus	...	...	4
Hæmorrhage, ante-partum	...	...	56
Ditto post-partum	...	...	44
Hæmorrhage (not defined)	...	...	13
Ruptured perineum	...	...	216
Contracted pelvis	...	...	8
Abnormal presentation—			
Breech	...	...	37
Face	...	...	5
Hand	...	...	4
Transverse	...	...	4
Vertex	...	...	9
Foot	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	14
Abortion	...	...	55
Threatened Abortion	...	...	17
Still-birth	...	...	42
Unsatisfactory condition of mother	...	...	141
Ditto child	...	...	85
Deformity of child	...	...	19
Eye affections	...	...	112
Uterine Inertia	...	...	38
Doctor engaged	...	...	33
Born before arrival	...	...	1
Watery blisters	...	...	7
Pemphigus Neonatorum	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	17

Suspension of midwives to prevent the spread of infection was necessary in 9 cases, 7 on account of puerperal fever, 1 small pox and 1 scarlet fever.

M.—PROVISION OF MIDWIVES FOR THE COUNTY.

The Midwives Acts, 1902 and 1918, are administered by the County Public Health Committee, acting as the Local Supervising Authority, for which the County Medical Officer acts as Executive Officer. The district nursing is provided under the scheme of the Monmouthshire Nursing Association, of which Lady Mather Jackson is the Honorary Secretary.

The Monmouthshire Nursing Association undertakes the training of pupil midwives for the Monmouthshire Education Committee. They were requested to make this provision at the instance of the County Council, after the passing of the Midwives Act in 1902.

Good work continues to be accomplished by the Association, both in the training of pupil midwives and in the provision of nurses for district nursing. At the present time there are 27 constituent Associations affiliated to the Monmouthshire Nursing Association, and 30 nurses are employed by them. There are in addition seven nurses on the staff of the Tredegar Nurses' Home, and one at the Tredegar Maternity Home. The aims of the Association have been fully stated in previous reports.

The Nurses' Home at Tredegar, which is recognised by the Central Midwives Board as a training centre for midwifery pupils, passed out six pupils during the year, all of whom were successful in obtaining the Central Midwives' Board Certificate.

Since the establishment of the Training Centre 18 years ago, 94 pupils have received midwifery training, 90 have passed the C.M.B. examinations, three have failed, and one refused to sit the examination after being trained. 25 pupils have also received six months' general training at the Home, in addition to the midwifery training.

Dr. Mary Scott, Assistant Medical Officer, is the approved Lecturer to the pupil midwives. The Home is now sufficiently large to accommodate the scholarship pupils as well as the staff. The period of training of midwives is twelve months.

A grant of £350 is made each year by the County Education Committee to provide six midwifery scholarships, value £38 11s 4d. each, and in addition, six months' district training in general nursing for two pupils. If it should happen that the six scholarships are not taken up in the year, the amount of the grant is proportionately reduced.

The Nurses' Home of the Monmouthshire Nursing Association at Tredegar has a maternity ward. The Home is approved by the Central Midwives' Board for the full training of midwives under the new regulations. There are eight maternity beds provided at the Home, six of which are effective beds in accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives' Board. During the year 1930 84 maternity cases were dealt with at the Home, as compared with 69 in 1929. Seventy-seven of these cases were delivered by midwives and seven by doctors. There was one maternal death, four stillbirths, and two deaths of infants within 10 days of birth. There were 311 Ante-natal attendances at the Home during the year.

Under the Local Government Act, 1929, the grants hitherto made to the Home by the Ministry of Health are now being paid by the County Council. They amount to approximately £127 per annum.

A grant of £475 per annum for a maximum period of 10 years is given by the County Council to the Monmouthshire Nursing Association in connection with the provision of the Maternity Home at Tredegar.

PROVISION OF MIDWIVES IN RURAL AREAS.—A grant to the maximum of £750 per annum is made to the Monmouthshire Nursing Association to subsidise the provision of trained midwives in the rural areas of the County, in accordance with the scheme of the County Medical Officer, which was approved by the Public Health Committee and the Local Government Board in October, 1917.

During the year 1930 midwives were subsidised in the following areas :—

Llantilio Crossenny.	Raglan.	Caldicot.
Llantilio Pertholey.	Itton.	Monmouth.
Goytre and Llanover.	Llanfoist.	Llanfrechfa Lower.
Tintern and St. Arvans.	Llandogo and Trelleck.	Llanarth.
Usk.	Abersychan.	
Llangattock-vibon-avel.	Penhow.	

The Monmouthshire Nursing Association have not hitherto called for the maximum grant. The amount disbursed averages about £600 per annum.

N.—COUNTY SCHEME FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The scheme under which Local Maternity and Child Welfare Committees have been set up to render assistance at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres has been set out in detail in previous reports. There are 24 Committees, the majority of which are very active and are rendering useful assistance to the mothers and infants attending the Centres.

The scheme was originally intended to serve Maternity and Child Welfare only, but in the year 1929, the County Committee decided to ask the Local Committees to also undertake the after-care of Tuberculosis and the Welfare of the Blind. Schemes have been drafted, and the Local Committees are prepared to administer them, provided that the necessary funds are supplied by the County Council. The industrial depression prevailing in the County prevents the collection of money to any great extent by voluntary agencies.

O.—TRAINING OF ELDER GIRLS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

The need of making a place in the education of all women for training in the care of infants, and also young children, cannot be too well emphasised.

The elder scholars of Girls' Departments are taught infant care and hygiene at the Domestic Arts Centres of the Elementary Schools of the County, and the scheme is productive of excellent and far-reaching results.

P.—PROVISIONS FOR MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CASES AT HOSPITALS, Etc.

1.—PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.—The joint scheme of the County Council and Education Committee, whereby beds are reserved at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, London, was in full operation during the year. The reservation of beds is 24.

Mr. A. Rocyn Jones, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), the Consultant Orthopædic Surgeon, visits the Central Orthopædic Clinic, Newport, once a month for the purpose of examining new cases, and re-examining children who have received treatment at the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital. The following children under five years of age were seen by him during the year :—

Rickets	...	...	3
Torticollis	...	...	3
Paresis	...	...	2
Subluxation, Right Shoulder			1
Pes Planus	...	...	3
Talipes Equino Varus	...		2
Infantile Paralysis	...		1
Contraction, little fingers			1
Congenital Dislocation of Hip			1
Bi-lateral Congenital absence of femora	...	...	1
Paralysis Deltoid and Shoulder Girdle	...	...	1
Limping	...	...	1
Birth Palsy	...	...	1
Weakness of Left Thigh			1
No physical signs	...		2
Congenital Dorsal Scoliosis			1
Outward Curved Tibiae	...		10
Weakness of Left Knee	...		2
Pes Plano Valgus	...		10
Tuberculosis, Right Hip	...		1
Contracted Toes	...	...	1
Hemiplegia	...	...	2
Cervical Rib	...	...	1
Exostosis, Right Temporal Bone	...	...	1
Congenital Equino Varus			1
Congenital Absence of Right Pectoralis Major	...		1
Genu Valgum	...	...	2
Ruptured Sterno Mastoid Muscles	...	...	1
Tabes Mesenterica	...		1
Calcaneous Deformity of Left Foot	...	...	1

His recommendations were as follows :—

For admission to the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital, Great Portland Street	...	...	...	...	...	2
For admission to the Country Branch of the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital, Brockley Hill	...	...	...	...	...	8
To wear Splints or other apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	15
To attend for massage or other treatment at Newport Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	1
To have alterations to Boots	...	...	...	...	...	13
To see X-Ray Specialist	...	...	...	...	...	7
Observation	...	...	...	...	...	5
No treatment required	...	...	...	...	...	8
For admission to a Convalescent Home	...	...	...	...	...	1

He also made at the Newport Clinic 20 re-examinations of children who had received treatment at the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital.

During the year 20 infants were sent to the Royal National Orthopædic Hospital or its Country Branch at Stanmore, Middlesex, and one was sent to the Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff.

The defects from which they suffered were as follows :—

Congenital Equino Varus	...	5	Left Torticollis	...	...	1
Congenital Dislocation, Right Hip	...	...	Webbed Fingers, Right Hand	...	...	1
Do. do. Left Hip	...	3	Infantile Paralysis	...	...	1
Severe Rickets	...	2	Outward Curved Tibiæ	...	...	2
Congenital Absence of Fibula	...	1	Right Birth Palsy	...	...	1
Severe Anterio Poliomyelitis	...	1	Cleft Palate	...	...	1
			Calcaneo Valgus	...	...	1

Since the inception of the scheme 65 infants and children under 5 years of age have received treatment at the Hospital.

Upon discharge of the children from the Orthopædic Hospital, the County Medical Officer takes charge of their after-care. He sees them periodically at the Central Orthopædic Clinic, Newport, and at the Clinics at Crumlin and Pengam, and supervises their massage and electrical treatment and appropriate after-care when necessary. A close watch is kept upon the surgical boots and instruments which have been supplied to the children, to see that they are properly and constantly worn and continue to be suitable. During the year 1930, he examined and kept under supervision 137 crippled infant children, including cases of first diagnosis and re-examinations.

Nine infants attended the Clinic for massage and electrical treatment during the year, making 285 attendances.

Six walking instruments, four splints, nine night shoes, two pattens and one pilon were supplied for these children by the County Council. Alterations to boots were made for 14 children and two alterations to walking instruments. The total cost in this connection was £44 7s. 3d., of which the parents paid £6 17s. 10d., leaving a net cost to the Council of £37 9s. 5d. Infants suffering from Surgical Tuberculosis are treated at the Hospitals of the Welsh National Memorial Association.

It is safe to say that the work accomplished by and through the Orthopædic Department has been one of inestimable benefit to the maimed and crippled children. The Council has had full value for the money expended, and the results in many instances have been astonishing and wonderful. More than one child would to-day have been in the grave but for the beneficent facilities that the County Council have so generously provided in this respect. Others again have been enabled to walk having been rescued from being permanently bedridden, whilst the majority of the cases have so benefited by treatment that they will be able to fend for themselves.

2.—HOSTEL FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS.—The Maternity Home and Hostel at Nantyderry continues its good work. There are 12 beds at the institution, and the number of girls admitted there during the year was 14, the average duration of stay being 136.9 days. Eleven babies were born, one of whom died at the age of 18 days. The total number of inmates during the year (including those who were admitted in the previous year) was 22 girls and 17 babies.

Fourteen girls were discharged, of whom five were found situations, six went to relatives, two to Homes and one was married. Of the babies discharged four were with their grandmothers, four went to Homes, and two to foster-parents.

Of the 22 girls resident in the Hostel during the year, four were from the Borough of Newport, 16 from the County of Monmouth and two from Gloucester.

Generally, the girls are admitted one month before their confinement, and remain for six months after the birth of the child. As far as possible the mother and child are not separated for at least the first six months of the infant's life.

During their stay at the Hostel the mothers are trained to undertake some useful work when they leave, and arrangements are made when necessary for the boarding out of the baby.

The Hostel is a great boon to these unfortunate girls, who have not only to bear the criticism of the neighbours, but have to look forward to their confinement in unsatisfactory rooms. They are generally in a neurotic state of mind. The Hostel gives them a chance of privacy which they could not receive in a public institution, and enables them to preserve their self-respect.

The work is admirable both in scope and execution, and fully justifies the support given by the County Council. A stay of six months in such a Hostel makes all the difference to the after-life of these girls and their children.

3.—MEDICAL ATTENDANCE AT CONFINEMENTS.—Under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918, the County Council are responsible for the payment of fees of medical practitioners called by midwives in cases of emergency, under certain specified conditions.

Fees were paid in 225 cases during the year, involving a payment of £420 7s. 6d. The Council have power to recover the whole or part of such fees from the husbands, and the total amount collected in this way by the Finance Department was £24 6s. 10d. The figures for the year 1929 were 160 cases, costing £264 12s. 6d. Amount collected from husbands, £31 10s. 6d.

All these cases are investigated at the homes by the County Officers before they are passed by the County Medical Officer.

4.—PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.—The old Poor-Law Institutions of the County are now under the control of the County Council, and the following table shows the accommodation available for maternity cases, and its use during the period 1st April, 1930, to 31st December, 1930:—

Public Institutions	Aber-gavenny	Tredegar	Chepstow	Monmouth	Caerleon	Pontypool	Total
Number of Maternity Beds	3	7	2	2	—	5	19
Number of Confinements during year ...	1	12	3	1	—	5	22

5.—DIFFICULT LABOUR CASES.—Facilities for consultation with Dr. G. I. Strachan, M.D., F.R.C.S., Senior Assistant Gynæcologist of the Welsh National Medical School, and the Royal Infirmary, Cardiff, are provided for these cases, and hospital treatment given when necessary.

Thirty-six cases were examined by Dr. Strachan, and eighteen of them were subsequently admitted to the Maternity Hospital of the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Six cases recommended by the County Council were admitted to the Tredegar Maternity Home during the year, as the conditions for the confinement of the women in their own homes were unsuitable.

6.—DENTAL TREATMENT.—Mr. C. J. Hurry Riches, L.D.S., R.C.S., Senior School Dentist under the Education Committee, devotes one half-day per week to dental treatment of expectant and nursing mothers, and also children under five years of age. Each Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in the County is visited by Mr. Riches, and advice given to expectant and nursing mothers who have carious teeth. Treatment (extractions only) of those who desire it is afterwards given at the nearest County School Clinic. The treatment figures for the year are as follows:—

No. of appointments made	...	981
No. of appointments kept	...	706
No. of cases given "gas"	...	686
No. of permanent teeth extracted	...	2868
No. of temporary teeth extracted	...	500
No. of mothers treated	...	572
No. of children treated	...	114

The treatment is limited to extraction of defective teeth. Mothers who require dentures have to make their own arrangements.

The condition of the teeth during pregnancy is of great importance to the expectant mother, for decaying teeth and inflamed gums often cause considerable trouble, chiefly through the upsetting of the digestive system, and it frequently happens that harm is done to the unborn child.

The number of children under five years of age receiving treatment is very small, but it is not possible to develop this section with the limited dental staff available. It is obvious that a perfect set of teeth can only be grown and retained by proper care from the very start.

7.—REGISTRATION OF MATERNITY HOMES.—Four Homes have been registered under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927, one at Tredegar (Maternity and Nursing), one at Nantyderry (Maternity), one at Tref-ap-Gwilym, Cardiff Road, Newport (Maternity) and one at Highfield, Bassaleg (Nursing). The Home previously registered at Rumney has been closed. One application for registration was refused as the person in charge was not a qualified midwife. Powers of inspection of the Homes are given to the County Medical Officer, and are carried out.

One exemption was granted, this being in respect of the Monmouth Hospital, Monmouth.

Q.—INFANT PROTECTION.

By the Local Government Act of 1929, the functions under Part I of the Children Act, 1908, dealing with the visitation of children under the age of 7 years, adopted for reward, were transferred from the old Boards of Guardians to County Councils.

The Act came into force on the 1st April, 1930, since which date one of the Council's Health Visitors has undertaken the duties. There are 40 infants on the County Register, and a visit of inspection is paid every three months to see that the health and home circumstances of the infant are satisfactory.

All the cases were visited during the year and there were no complaints of the care bestowed upon them.

It can hardly be doubted that this change of method of inspection will be in the interest of the children who will have the advantage of supervision by a Health Visitor specially trained for this type of work and closely connected with the Child Welfare Centres.

The only difficulty so far experienced by the Health Visitor is in regard to the financial position of the person who has adopted the infant. In several cases she has found that payments are not regularly being made by the parents of children, and that secondly the financial circumstances of the foster parent are not entirely satisfactory.

R.—CONCLUSIONS.

The most gratifying feature of this report is the fall of the infant mortality rate to 64.9 per 1,000 births, which is the lowest on record. The previous lowest was 66.1 for the year 1926.

One of the greatest advances in preventive medicine of recent years has been in the preservation of infant life, and it is satisfactory to note that Monmouthshire is in the vanguard in this work.

It is difficult to indicate any one factor as the cause of the drop in infant mortality, but undoubtedly one of the chief agencies is the Maternity and Child Welfare Schemes of the Local Authorities. The popularity of the scheme in Monmouthshire is shown by the large attendances at the Centres, and it was found that 67.7 per cent. of the infants born during the year 1930 were taken to the Centres.

Notwithstanding the fact that Monmouthshire is one of the Counties which has been affected very severely by the industrial depression, the Infant Mortality rate is very little higher than the rate for the whole of England and Wales. The latter rate, 60.0 is also a record figure. This is a tribute to the effectiveness of the County Scheme, and particularly that section which provides milk for infants in necessitous cases.

Another section of the work which is producing valuable results is that which deals with orthopædic treatment, and includes examination by an orthopædic specialist, treatment in an orthopædic hospital, and massage and electrical treatment at the Newport Clinic.

There are many infants suffering from rickets, anæmia, marasmus and other defects who would greatly benefit by physiotherapy treatment (artificial sunlight and ultra-violet rays). Arrangements are being made for these children to attend a special clinic to be held in Newport, and it is expected that many of them will derive considerable benefit.

Mention was made in last year's report of the position of the "toddlers," children of the age period 2 to 5 years. These children attend the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in large numbers. In the year 1930 there were 21,922 attendances made by 1,140 children.

It is obvious that the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is not the place for the examination of these children, chiefly because the accommodation is limited and there is not much time for attention to them if the babies are to be properly looked after. The examination of "toddlers" at these Centres is therefore a perfunctory one in the majority of cases. There must be special Clinics for "toddlers" if they are to be satisfactorily dealt with, and this raises a very big financial problem. It is, however, one well worth tackling, for practically all the physical disabilities which incapacitate children during school life are preventable, and periodical medical examinations between the ages of two and five years would lead to the early diagnosis and treatment of many diseases in which early treatment is so essential.

The maternal mortality rate for the County, although considerably lower than that of last year, still remains high, but the measures necessary to bring it down are now well in hand. The County Ante-natal Clinics are proving very popular. Some are already overcrowded and will need extra sessions in the near future.

The decision of the Council to proceed with the arrangements to open the Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital has been received with satisfaction. It will probably be ready for use in September of this year.

The one great need of this service is adequate premises and accommodation for carrying on the work, and this applies also to the Clinic work of School Medical Inspection.

A joint Committee of representatives of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, the Elementary Education Sub-Committee and the Sites and Buildings Sub-Committee has been appointed to report upon the provision and equipment of suitable premises for the Clinic work generally.

This Committee will meet at an early date to consider the question.

We are sure the members of the Committee will appreciate the value of the service which is being rendered to the mothers and infants of the County through its Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme. The majority of children are born healthy, and all that is required to enable them to progress to healthy manhood and womanhood is rational treatment in their homes under the care of wise and efficient parents. The County service is playing a big part in the attainment of that ideal. Since the scheme has been in operation it has achieved a notable work, and has been the means, direct or indirect, of saving the lives of hundreds of infants. Despite the results which have been already attained, there is still plenty of work to be done to combat the ignorance, apathy and carelessness of some mothers, which continue to rob the cradle and the nursery.

We again thank the voluntary helpers and the members of the District Maternity and Child Welfare Committees for the assistance given at the Centres. We also gratefully record our appreciation of the continued support afforded by the Chairman and Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

D. ROCYN JONES,

County Medical Officer.

