

**[Report 1937] / Medical Officer of Health, Montgomeryshire County Council.**

**Contributors**

Montgomeryshire (Wales). County Council.

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O. R.  
WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH  
A 30 NOV 1938  
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Montgomery County Council.

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# Annual Report

OF THE

County Medical Officer  
of Health

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1937.

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COUNTY HEALTH OFFICES,  
NEWTOWN, MONT.





Montgomery County Council.

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# Annual Report

OF THE

County Medical Officer  
of Health

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1937.

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COUNTY HEALTH OFFICES,

NEWTOWN, MONT.

**To the Chairman, Aldermen, and Councillors  
of the Montgomery County Council.**

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you the annual report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1937, which is drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 1650 (Wales) issued by the Welsh Board of Health. The Board have stated that for effective consideration to be given to the contents of the annual report, it is essential that it should be completed at the earliest possible date. It has not been found possible, however, to prepare this report earlier, owing to a number of circumstances.

The late Dr. E. W. Richards was unable to take any active part as County Medical Officer after the 27th October, 1937, owing to ill-health, which ended fatally on the 23rd February, 1938. Dr. J. Howard Jones was appointed temporary County Medical Officer of Health as from the 22nd January, 1938, but was unable to complete the annual report for 1937, owing to pressure of other routine work before his departure on 1st September, 1938.

The late Dr. E. W. Richards commenced duties as County Medical Officer of Health on 13th September, 1927. Since then the scope and volume of the work has increased considerably, until it might be said that he attempted more than was possible for one man to accomplish. The effects of his influence are to be seen throughout the many activities of the Health Department, but more especially in the School Medical Service.

I feel it should be recorded that, while arrears of work accumulated during Dr. E. W. Richards' illness, the efforts of Miss A. D. Breese, County Health Visitor, and of Mr. V. J. Jestico, Clerk in the Public Health Department, were successful in maintaining the continuity of much of the work of the Department.

This report is very brief as it has had to be prepared under the direction of the present County Medical Officer of Health who was not appointed until eight months after the end of the period under review.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

IVOR J. JONES,

October, 1938.

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**PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE,  
AND  
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

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Chairman: Councillor W. H. Lewis, M.B., C.M., B.Sc.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the County Council.

Alderman W. C. Black;

- „ J. Cookson;
- „ Fred J. Davies;
- „ W. M. Dugdale;
- „ John Griffith;
- „ N. Bennett Owen;

Councillor W. J. Corbett-Winder;

- „ W. P. Evans;
- „ Richard Francis;
- „ Evan Hughes;
- „ C. Heber Humphreys;
- „ David James;
- „ E. Emrys Jones;
- „ A. Reg. Jones;
- „ David Lewis;
- „ Richard Rees;
- „ T. Hubert Watkins;
- „ J. B. Willans;

Co-opted Members:—

Mrs. F. F. Corbett-Winder; and  
Mrs. A. Lloyd Jones.

### **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE.**

Chairman: Councillor E. Emrys Jones.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Alderman W. C. Black;  
 „ John Davies;  
 „ F. J. Davies;  
 „ John Griffith;  
 „ Edward Hughes;  
 Councillor Evan Humphreys;  
 „ C. Heber Humphreys;  
 „ A. Reg. Jones;  
 „ William Jones;  
 „ David Lewis;  
 „ W. H. Lewis;  
 „ W. Lloyd Pierce.

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### **STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

County Medical Officer of Health:

E. W. RICHARDS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

County Superintendent of Nurses, Supervisor of Midwives, and  
County Health Visitor:

Miss AGNES D. BREESE, S.R.N., S.C.M.

District Health Visitors (part time):

29 District Nurses.

Orthopædic Surgeon (part time):

A. O. PARKER, M.D., C.M., The Robert Jones and Agnes  
Hunt Orthopædic Hospital, Gobowen, Oswestry.

## Obstetric and Puerperal Fever Consultants:

FRANK H. EDWARDS, F.R.C.S., (Edin.).

DAVID ELLIS, M.D.

C. MILWYN BURRELL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

## County Veterinary Inspector:

LEONARD LL. JONES, M.R.C.V.S.

## County Architect:

H. CARR, F.S.I., L.R.I.B.A.

## County Analyst:

HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.I.C., Public Analyst and  
Assayer, Assay Office, Goss Street, Chester.

## Deputy Analyst:

P. H. JONES.

## Inspector under Food &amp; Drugs Acts, etc.:

E. WALTER EVANS, Weights & Measures Office,  
Severn Place, Newtown.

## Clerk in Public Health Department:

VICTOR J. JESTICO.

## PUBLIC VACCINATORS:

Vaccinator.	District.
Dr. J. C. Ashton, Machynlleth.—Machynlleth Rural, Newlands Casual Wards.	
Dr. Ll. ap Ivan Davies, Cemmaes Road.—Cemmaes.	
Dr. W. E. Ll. Davies, Llanidloes.—Llanidloes.	
Dr. R. Davies Jones, Caersws.—Caersws P.A. Institution.	
Dr. Dan E. Davies, Machynlleth.—Machynlleth Urban.	
Dr. W. E. Gemmell, Westbury—Bausley and Criggion.	
Dr. D. M. Hunter, Worthen—Trelystan.	
Dr. E. Cernyw James, Llanfyllin.—Llanfyllin.	
Dr. W. Milton Jones, Llanfair Caereinion.—Llanfair Caereinion.	
Dr. A. Shearer, Newtown.—Newtown.	
Dr. S. J. Stewart, Montgomery.—Montgomery, Forden.	
Dr. R. D. Thomas, Welshpool.—Welshpool.	
Dr. D. Murray Young, Llansantffraid.—Llansantffraid.	



## VACCINATION OFFICERS.

A. Sidney Evans, Bryndedwydd, New Road, Llanfair Caer.  
 E. P. Everest, O.B.E., St. John's Hill, Shrewsbury.  
 Ivor Jones, Llys Dyfi, Cemmaes Road.  
 Mrs. Sarah E. Lewis, Bro Dawel, Llanidloes.  
 W. S. Lewis, 56, Erw Wen, Welshpool.  
 D. T. Llewellyn, Community House, Newtown.  
 Dan. E. Thomas, Wesley House, Tregynon.  
 J. H. Vaughan, Vron, Llanrhaidr, Oswestry.  
 Robert Watkin, Gwynfa, Llansantffraid.

DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS UNDER THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE  
COMMITTEE.

## Forden Area.

Montgomery District.—Dr. S. J. Stewart, Montgomery.

Welshpool District.—Dr. R. E. Game Phillips, Montgomery.  
 Dr. R. D. Thomas, Welshpool.

## Llanfyllin Area.

Llanfyllin District.—Dr. E. Cernyw James, Llanfyllin.

Llanfair District.—Dr. Milton Jones.—Llanfair.

Dr. D. Murray Young,—Llansantffraid.

Dr. R. D. Thomas, Welshpool.

## Newtown and Machynlleth Area.

Newtown District.—Dr. A. Shearer, Newtown.

Dr. J. F. Clarke, Newtown.

Dr. W. Milton Jones, Llanfair Caereinion.

Llanidloes District.—Dr. W. E. Ll. Davies, Llanidloes.

Dr. R. Davies Jones, Caersws.

Machynlleth District.—Dr. Dan E. Davies, Machynlleth.

Dr. J. C. Ashton, Machynlleth.

Dr. Ll. ap Ivan Davies, Cemmaes.

The following is a table showing the names of the Medical Officers of Health, and the Sanitary Inspectors, in each Sanitary District in the County, viz.:—

Sanitary District.	Area in Acres.	Population (estimated for 1937).	Medical Officer of Health.	Sanitary Inspector.
Llanfyllin M.B. ...	8143	1333	Dr. E. C. James.	Mr. David Lloyd.
Llanidloes M.B. ...	618	2320	Dr. H. G. Davies.	Mr. A. P. James.
Machynlleth U.D....	1182	1826	Dr. D. E. Davies.	Mr. B. Brooks Evans
Montgomery M.B....	3390	836	Dr. S. J. Stewart.	Mr. F. Hunt.
Newtown and Llan- llwchaearn U.D. ...	7302	4708	Dr. A. Shearer.	Mr. A. Pembryn Roberts.
Welshpool M.B. ...	20427	5277	Dr. J. A. Crump.	Mr. W. M. Evans
Forden R.D. ...	49774	4930	Dr. R. D. Thomas.	Mr. F. Hunt.
Llanfyllin R.D. ...	163477	10990	Dr. W. M. Jones.	Mr. J. P. Griffiths.
Machynlleth R.D. ...	87562	3326	Dr. J. C. Ashton.	Mr. Geo. Peate.
Newtown and Llan- idloes R.D. ...	168235	9724	Dr. W. Ll. Davies.	Mr. A. S. Benbow.

The Rural District of Machynlleth administers the Parish of Pennal in Merionethshire.

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTY.

There has been no marked change in the social conditions in the County.

### STATISTICAL SURVEY FOR 1937.

Area of Administrative County	... .. 510,110 Acres.
Rateable Value (1st April, 1937 to 31st Mar., 1938)	... £160,558
Product of a Penny Rate (Estimated)	... .. £658

Estimated population mid-year 1937:—

Urban Districts	... ..	16,300
Rural Districts	... ..	28,970
Whole County	... ..	45,270

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Live Births:—Total	... 338	317	655
Legitimate	... 309	295	604
Illegitimate	29	22	51
Live Birth Rate:—County	... ..	... ..	14.4
Urban	... ..	... ..	15.7
Rural	... ..	... ..	13.7
	Male.	Female.	Total.
Still Births:—Total	... 22	13	35
Legitimate	... 19	12	31
Illegitimate	... 3	1	4
Still Birth Rate:—County	... ..	... ..	0.77
Urban	... ..	... ..	0.36
Rural	... ..	... ..	1.001

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths:—County	... 273	406	679
Urban	... 119	201	320
Rural	... 154	205	359
Death Rate:—County	... ..	... ..	14.9
Urban	... ..	... ..	16.7
Rural	... ..	... ..	14.0

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

Puerperal Sepsis	... ..	0
Other Puerperal Causes	... ..	3
Rate per 1,000 Total (live & still) births		4.33

## Deaths of Infants under 1 year:—

	County.	Urban.	Rural.
All Infants per 1000 live births	45.8	35.01	52.76
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate births	... .. 43.0	33.61	49.1
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Illegitimate births	... .. 78.4	52.6	93.7

Death Rate from Measles	... ..	0.00
"    "    "    Whooping Cough	... ..	0.08
"    "    "    Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	... ..	0.02
"    "    "    Tuberculosis—Total	... ..	0.64
"    Pulmonary	... ..	0.53
"    Non-Pulmonary	... ..	0.11
"    "    "    Cancer	... ..	2.29
"    "    "    Heart Disease	... ..	3.91
"    "    "    Respiratory Diseases (Non-Tb.)	... ..	0.04

**Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937.**

England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns and County of Montgomery.

	England and Wales	125 County Boro's and Great Town's including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County.	County of Montgomery
	Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Births :—					
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3	14.4
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54	0.77
Deaths :—					
All Causes	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3	14.9
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.00
Scarlet fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.09
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.00
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38	0.86
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	6.51	0.44
Notifications :—					
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—	—
Scarlet fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09	0.35
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93	0.09
Enteric fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.00
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44	0.15
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18	1.44
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60	46
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0	0.02
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.97	Not available			0.00
Others	2.26				4.58
Total	3.23				4.58
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still).				
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.94	Not available			0.00
Others	2.17				4.33
Total	3.11				4.33
Notifications :—					
Puerperal fever	13.93	17.59	11.52	4.15	4.35
Puerperal pyrexia				14.34	





## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

### (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

No changes from the arrangements in force in previous years have been made.

### (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(1) FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—An Ambulance is supplied by the Shrewsbury and Atcham Joint Hospital Board, Monkmoor, near Shrewsbury, for the conveyance of infectious disease cases from the County to their Hospital.

An Ambulance is also provided for the conveyance of cases of Puerperal Fever to the Berrington Hospital by the Salop County Council.

(2) FOR NON-INFECTIOUS CASES.—Two of the General Hospitals in the County, viz.: Llanidloes and Welshpool provide ambulance facilities for conveying patients to their Hospitals.

(3) By the enterprise of Alderman J. Cookson, The Cookson's Garages, Ltd., Newtown, have provided a modernly equipped Motor Ambulance for the purposes of hire. This has supplied a long-felt want in the area. The charges are moderate, and its services are available at short notice.

There have been no adverse reports on the adequacy of the ambulance services in the County.

(c) TREATMENT CENTRES & CLINICS are held as follows:—

#### (i) DENTAL CLINICS.

LLANFAIR: The Institute: Second Friday in the month.  
From 9-30 a.m.

LLANFYLLIN: Domestic Science Centre. Last Thursday in the month. From 10 a.m.



LLANIDLOES: Club Room, Long Bridge Street. First Thursday in the month. From 9-30 a.m.

MACHYNLLETH: Domestic Science Centre. Last Friday in the month. From 10 a.m.

NEWTOWN: County Health Offices. Every Saturday morning and last Tuesday in the month, and other times by arrangement. From 9 a.m.

WELSHPOOL: Old Grammar School. First Monday in the month. From 9-30 a.m.

(ii) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

LLANFYLLIN: The Institute. First Thursday in month at 2-30 p.m.

LLANIDLOES: Girls Club Room. Last Wednesday in each month, at 2-30 p.m.

MACHYNLLETH: Presbyterian Schoolroom. First Tuesday in each month, at 2-30 p.m.

NEWTOWN: Wesleyan Schoolroom. Second and last Thursday in each month, at 2-30 p.m.

WELSHPOOL: Victoria Memorial Hospital. First and third Friday in each month, at 2-30 p.m.

(iii) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS.

MACHYNLLETH: Presbyterian Schoolroom—Fortnightly on Tuesday (alternately with Newtown), 10-30 a.m.

NEWTOWN: Wesleyan Schoolroom—Fortnightly on Tuesday, 10-30 a.m.

OSWESTRY: Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital—Weekly on Wednesday, 10-30 a.m.

WELSHPOOL: Victoria Memorial Hospital—Fortnightly on  
Monday 10-30 a.m.

(iv) TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS.

LLANFAIR CAEREINION.—The Institute, by appointment.

LLANFYLLIN.—17, Penybryn, Llanfyllin, *last Thursday* in every  
month at 12-0 o'clock noon.

LLANIDLOES.—Girls' Club Room, Long Bridge Street, Llan  
idloes. *Saturday*, before last Tuesday every month, at  
10-30 a.m.

MACHYNLLETH.—Tuberculosis Hospital, Machynlleth, *every  
Wednesday morning*, or by appointment.

MONTGOMERY.—The Recreation Room, Montgomery, by ap-  
pointment.

NEWTOWN.—The Tuberculosis Institute, Montgomery County  
Infirmery, Llanfair Road, Newtown. *Tuesday morning*,  
and at other times by appointment.

WELSHPOOL.—The Dispensary, New Street, Welshpool. *1st  
and 3rd Monday* (Fair Days) in the month at 10-30 a.m.

OTHER PLACES.—By appointment.

(v) VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS.

Persons suffering from these diseases are sent for treatment  
at the V.D. Centre, No. 1, Belmont, Shrewsbury, under an  
agreement with the Salop County Council. The Medical Officer  
in charge is Col. J. Grech, D.S.O., A.M.S. (Ret.).

The hours of attendance at the Clinics are as follows:—

Men—	Tuesdays ...	6—8 p.m.
	Fridays	6—8 p.m.
Women—	Wednesdays...	2—4 p.m.

Return of Cases attending the Clinic during 1937:—



Preparations used in the Treatment of Syphilis were as follows:—

69 injections of approved Arsenobenzine compounds (Stabilarsan and Sulphostab) given.

Hyd c Creta Tablets given; and

43 injections of Bismostab given.

PATHOLOGICAL WORK.—44 specimens for Gonorrhoea were examined at the Treatment Centre and 13 specimens of blood for Wassermann reaction were sent to an approved laboratory.

SUMMARY.—Total number of new cases from the area during the year:—

Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	6
Soft Chancre	...	...	...	...	...	0
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	26
Conditions other than Venereal	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total number of attendances of all patients	...	...	...	...	...	241
Aggregate number of in-patient days	...	...	...	...	...	0
Total number of Injections	...	...	...	...	...	112

(d) HOSPITALS: PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY.

There has been no change in the provision of Public or Voluntary Hospitals in the County from previous years.

There has been no change in—

- (i) the administration of the institutional medical services transferred from the late Boards of Guardians under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1929, or subsequently provided under the Public Health or Local Government Acts;

- (ii) Poor Law Medical Out-Relief; and
- (iii) Institutional provision for the care of Mental Defectives.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

MIDWIVES.—60 Midwives practised in the County during the year. All of these have had their Midwifery training and are certificated by the Central Midwives Board. 12 reside in and take cases only in Voluntary Hospitals and Public Assistance Institutions.

Practically all the Midwifery in the County is carried out by the 29 District Nursing Associations which are affiliated to the County Nursing Association.

A nurse is employed by each who has either been trained under the County Scheme, or has had full General Training, and possesses the Central Midwives Board Certificate. The number of District Nurses who have had their full general training is 6.

Two small areas on the borders of the County are served by the neighbouring District Nursing Associations in the adjoining counties. These are at Corris on the border of Merionethshire, and Hope and Shelve on the border of Shropshire.

The two areas in the County not covered by a District Nursing Association still remain. There is no resident midwife in the area also. These are Mochdre and Dolfor, and Aberbechan areas. The Health Visiting in these areas is carried out by the County Health Visitor.

No Midwives are employed or directly subsidised by the Local Authority, and no arrangements are in force for nursing infectious cases in their homes.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.—The ante-natal scheme which came into operation on 1st May, 1935, remains unchanged.

During 1937 119 expectant mothers were examined by their own doctors either at home or at the doctor's surgery. This gives a percentage of 17.2 of the total notified births during the year.

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY:

Detailed inquiries are made by the County Medical Officer of Health and County Health Visitor in consultation with the Medical Attendant in accordance with the requirements of the Maternal Mortality Committee.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—The services of Consultants are available in these cases if the Medical Attendant is of the opinion that it is necessary. The sanction of the County Medical Officer of Health has to be acquired beforehand unless the case is very urgent when information has to be given immediately after the case is seen.

The Consultants are:—

Frank H. Edwards, F.R.C.S., (Ed.), M.B., Ch.B., (Liverpool),  
M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), 14, St. John's Hill,  
Shrewsbury.

David Ellis, M.D., North Road, Aberystwyth.

Charles Milwyn Burrell, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Pier Street,  
Aberystwyth.

Arrangements are also in force whereby these cases can be admitted if necessary to the Berrington Hospital, near Shrewsbury. An Ambulance is provided by the Salop County Council for the conveyance of patients to the Hospital.

One case of Puerperal Fever was notified to me during the year in the Llanfyllin Rural District.

Two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year—one case in the Machynlleth Urban District, and the other in the Welshpool Municipal Borough.

All cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia are visited by the County Health Visitor in conjunction with the midwife in attendance. Arrangements are made for nursing the cases at home if they are not removed to an Institution. As a rule the midwife in charge is left to nurse the case while alternative arrangements are made to carry out the work of the district.

**MEDICAL HELP IN MATERNITY CASES.**—Assistance was summoned by Midwives under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918, in 194 instances during the year. This figure is seen to become higher every year when previous statistics are compared, viz.:—

1936, 184; 1935, 180; 1934, 164; 1933, 156; 1932, 168; 1931, 163; 1930, 123; 1929, 109; 1928, 98.

Medical Aid was sought on behalf of the child in 10 instances and on behalf of the mother in 184 instances.

The reasons set out for calling in assistance on behalf of the mother were as follows:—

Prolonged Labour	...	...	...	...	60
Ruptured Perineum	...	...	...	...	20
Condition of Mother	...	...	...	...	18
Ante-natal Illness	...	...	...	...	8
Miscarriage	...	...	...	...	8
Breech Presentation	...	...	...	...	6
Uterine Inertia	...	...	...	...	14
Antepartum Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	8
Adherent Placenta	...	...	...	...	6
Malpresenation	...	...	...	...	5
Postpartum Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	3
Eclampsia	...	...	...	...	3

Threatened Abortion	...	...	...	...	4
Still Birth	...	...	...	...	4
Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	5
Caesarian Section	...	...	...	...	4
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	5
Twins	...	...	...	...	2
Placenta Praevia	...	...	...	...	1
				Total	— 184

The reasons set out for calling in assistance on behalf of the Child were as follows:—

Feebleness	...	...	...	...	4
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	1
Discharging Eyes	...	...	...	...	3
Deformity	...	...	...	...	2
				Total	— 10

The District Nursing Associations where the cases occurred were as follows:—

Abermule	...	...	...	...	4
Berriew	...	...	...	...	3
Buttington	...	...	...	...	1
Carno	...	...	...	...	7
Caersws	...	...	...	...	1
Churchstoke	...	...	...	...	4
Four Crosses	...	...	...	...	6
Guilsfield	...	...	...	...	2
Kerry	...	...	...	...	4
Leighton	...	...	...	...	2
Llandinam	...	...	...	...	2
Llanfair Caereinion	...	...	...	...	6
Llanfyllin	...	...	...	...	5
Llangurig	...	...	...	...	2
Llanidloes	...	...	...	...	11
Llanrhaiadr & Mochnant	...	...	...	...	2
Llansantffraid	...	...	...	...	3
Llanwddyn	...	...	...	...	1



Machynlleth	...	...	...	...	5
Meifod	...	...	...	...	1
Minsterley	...	...	...	...	1
Montgomery	...	...	...	...	6
Newtown	...	...	...	...	21
Newtown (Outer)	...	...	...	...	4
Trefeglwys	...	...	...	...	10
Tregynon	...	...	...	...	4
Upper Banwy	...	...	...	...	3
Welshpool	...	...	...	...	7
Welshpool (Outer)	...	...	...	...	4
				Total	— 132

The Institutions where the cases occurred were as follows:—

Victoria Memorial Hospital, Welshpool	...	...	...	...	19
Montgomery County Infirmary, Newtown	...	...	...	...	20
Llanidloes and District War Memorial, Hospital	...	...	...	...	18
Machynlleth, Corris & District Hospital	...	...	...	...	5
				Total	... 62

Notifications by Midwives in accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives Board were as follows:—

Laying out a dead body	...	...	...	...	...	34
Artificial Feeding	...	...	...	...	...	34
Still Births	...	...	...	...	...	6
Death of Mother or Child	...	...	...	...	...	2
Liability to be a source of Infection	...	...	...	...	...	9

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—2 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified to me by the District Medical Officer of Health of the Llanfyllin R.D. The cases were visited by the County Health Visitor and arrangements were made for carrying out the nursing.

The eyesight recovered satisfactorily in both cases.

Arrangements have been made for the Institutional Treatment of Ophthalmia Neonatorum and facilities are now available at the Salop Eye and Ear Hospital. No cases were admitted during the year.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907 AND 1915.—658 Live Births and 35 Still Births were notified in accordance with the above Acts during 1937. The total figure 693 compares with 686 for 1936; 774 for 1935; 725 for 1934; 729 for 1933; 762 for 1932; 733 for 1931; and 788 for 1930.

648 of the 693 were notified by midwives and 45 by parents and doctors.

Notification is carried out on the whole fairly promptly; a few only escaping notification each year. The latter are notified to us by the District Registrars of Births and Deaths who compare the Notification Register with their own Registers. When any births are found unnotified, enquiries are made and explanations are asked for, from the persons held responsible for carrying out the law.

### (iii) HEALTH VISITING.

#### INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

The arrangements with the Voluntary Hospitals in the County for Maternity cases under the County Council scheme remain the same as in previous years.

The number of cases admitted to the Maternity Wards, and their average duration of stay was as follows:—

	Number Admitted.	Average. stay.
Llanidloes & District War Memorial Hospital ... ..	16	20.56 days
Machynlleth, Corris and District Hospital ... ..	6	18.33 „
Montgomery County Infirmary ...	43	16.65 „
Victoria Memorial Hospital ... ..	31	16.42 „

## HEALTH VISITORS.

The arrangements for health visiting remain the same as last year.

Statement of the work of the Health Visitors during the year 1937.

Ante-natal Visits to Expectant Mothers: —

First Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	624
Total Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2093

Visits to Infants under 1 year of age: —

First Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	639
Total Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4909

Visits to the homes of children 1—5 years of age: —

Total Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6581
--------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

The total number of Health Visits to the homes of Expectant Mothers, and to Infants, and Children up to 5 years of age, was 14,846.

Summary of work done by the County Health Visitor and Inspector of Midwives during the year 1937: —

Number of Visits of Inspection to Midwives	...	...	...	328
"    "    "    Enquiries into Stillbirths	...	...	...	35
"    "    "    Enquiries into Infant Deaths	...	...	...	33
"    "    "    Enquiries into Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	3
Attendances at Maternity & Child Welfare Centres	...	...	...	75

## CHILD WELFARE.

## INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The average attendances for the year 1937 were as follows: —

Centre.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.
Llanfyllin	27.0	20.0	26.0	25.3
Llanidloes	47.6	37.3	30.2	38.0
Machynlleth	38.0	46.3	45.0	52.6
Newtown	17.6	23.2	21.1	23.0
Welshpool	53.6	60.3	53.3	61.5

The average attendances for the whole year were as follows:—

Llanfyllin	...	...	...	...	...	24.5
Llanidloes	...	...	...	...	...	38.8
Machynlleth	...	...	...	...	...	36.4
Newtown	...	...	...	...	...	21.4
Welshpool	...	...	...	...	...	57.2

The total number of attendances at all the Centres during the year was as follows:—

(i) Children under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	1152
(ii) Children between the ages of 1 and 5	...	...	...	...	1963

Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who on their first attendance were under—

(i) 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	...	140
(ii) Between 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	25

The percentage of notified live births represented by the number of children who attended the Centres for the first time and who were under 1 year of age is 21.3.

#### MILK FOR NECESSITOUS EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND INFANTS.

The arrangements for the supply of Milk for necessitous expectant and Nursing mothers and infants remain the same as in previous years.

The number of persons granted milk during each period was:—

Quarter ended 31st March, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	39
„ „ 30th June, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	40
„ „ 30th September, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	43
„ „ 31st December, 1937	...	...	...	...	...	47
						<hr/>
					Total	169

## SCALE OF MEANS.

The following revised Scale of Charges has been adopted by the County Council and Education Authority in respect of:—

- (a) All cases of Medical Aid under the Midwives Acts;
- (b) „ „ Maternity Wards and Treatment;
- (c) „ „ Tonsils and Adenoids and Orthopaedic Treatment;
- (d) „ „ Milk Supply (including Milk for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, Infants and Children);
- (e) „ „ coming within other services.

1. No claim to be made when the weekly gross income does not exceed 25s. and the total number in family is 2.

Does not exceed 30s. and the total number in family is	3
„ „ 35s. „ „ „	4
„ „ 40s. „ „ „	5
„ „ 45s. „ „ „	6
„ „ 50s. „ „ „	7
„ „ 55s. „ „ „	8
„ „ 60s. „ „ „	9
„ „ 65s. „ „ „	10

2. The responsible person to pay ONE THIRD of the fee when the weekly gross income is above the previous one and does not exceed 30s. and the total number in family is

2	3
„ „ 35s. „ „ „	4
„ „ 40s. „ „ „	5
„ „ 45s. „ „ „	6
„ „ 50s. „ „ „	7
„ „ 55s. „ „ „	8
„ „ 60s. „ „ „	9
„ „ 65s. „ „ „	10
„ „ 70s. „ „ „	

3. The responsible persons to pay TWO THIRDS of the fee when the weekly gross income is above the previous one and does not exceed 40s. and the total number in family is

						2
„	„	45s.	„	„	„	3
„	„	50s.	„	„	„	4
„	„	55s.	„	„	„	5
„	„	60s.	„	„	„	6
„	„	65s.	„	„	„	7
„	„	70s.	„	„	„	8
„	„	75s.	„	„	„	9
„	„	80s.	„	„	„	10

4. The responsible person to pay FULL FEES when the weekly gross income exceeds the above Scales.

5. The basis of assessing Farmers and Smallholders and persons unable to supply exact particulars of gross weekly income to be treble the annual value in the case of Owners and double the annual rent in the case of tenants.

6. Any case not covered by the above scale to be considered on its merits by the Committee concerned.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.—The arrangements remain the same as for 1936.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.—Children under 5 years of age can be sent for examination or treatment to one of the Orthopaedic Clinics run in connection with the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital under the County Council Scheme. Children over 5 years of age can be dealt with similarly by the Local Education Authority.

The Montgomeryshire Voluntary Orthopaedic Association have made themselves responsible for all cases that do not come under the above categories.

#### REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

The supervision and inspection of registered maternity and other nursing homes was carried out as in previous years by the

County Medical Officer of Health personally, and no powers have been delegated under Section 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to any of the County districts in the County.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The County Medical Officer of Health again participated in the Hydrographical Surveys of the River Severn on the 6th July, 1937, and the 5th October, 1937, conducted by officers of the Local Authorities throughout the length of the River Severn under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Both surveys were preceded by periods of small rainfall, consequently the Severn at the time of the July survey was slightly below its normal summer level, and in October the level was definitely low. In both surveys the conditions of the Severn in Montgomeryshire was satisfactory.

## HOUSING.

### HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS, 1926 and 1931.

The Executive Officer for the County Council under the above Acts is the County Land Agent, Mr. E. R. Puleston Jones, F.S.I., F.L.A.S., County Offices, Welshpool, and under his direction a large amount of work has been carried out.

For the year 1937 the position is as follows:—

Dwellings re-conditioned for which grants were given by the County Council as follows:—

Up to 31st December, 1936	... ..	211 Dwellings.
Completed during the year 1937	... ..	24 Dwellings.

		—
Total up to 31st Dec., 1937	... ..	235 Dwellings.
		—

Also work was in various stages of progress at 31st December, 1937, on 14 other dwellings.

Propaganda work is still being carried out, all local Councils having been asked to submit schedules of all the dwellings within their areas needing reconditioning. These schedules are now coming in, and the Ministry of Health Publicity pamphlets will be sent to all owners.

The Committee of the County Council have opened up the scope of the Acts by cancelling the limits previously fixed, i.e., a dwelling let with more than five acres of land, or if exceeding 5 acres exceeding £30 annual value was ineligible. Therefore, each dwelling will be considered on its merits, without any value or area limits, the standard being a dwelling of a type suitable for a person of the working classes.

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## **FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.**

### **REPORT OF FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTOR.**

I have the honour to submit my report on the administration of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, during the year ended 31st March, 1938.

During the year under review 168 samples of foodstuffs were purchased and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst, Harold Lowe, Esq., M.Sc., F.I.C., Assay Office, Chester. Of this number 110 were Formal samples of milk purchased from vendors who were selling it by retail and 7 were "Appeal to Cow" samples taken at farms at the time of milking.

Thirty-four miscellaneous articles of food other than milk were purchased informally and submitted to the Public Analyst, and as a result of his analysis 17 samples were purchased formally. The samples were as follows:—



## INFORMAL SAMPLES.

Name of Article sampled.	No. of samples taken.	No. of samples certified to be adulterated or unsatisfactory.
Butter	5	
Bread	2	
Chocolate Sweets	3	
Cocoa	1	
Chocolate Allsorts	1	1
Cheese	1	
Dried Peas	1	
Devon Cream	1	
Flour	1	
Fruit Sauce	1	
Honey	1	
Haddock	2	1
Ice Cream	2	
Lemonade Powder	1	
Lime Juice & Soda Cordial	1	
Lard	1	
Olive Oil	1	
Rice	1	
Sausage	2	
Sugar	1	
Tea	1	
Vinegar	2	
White Pepper	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	34	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>

## FORMAL SAMPLES.

Chocolate Allsorts	1	1
Liquorice Allsorts	1	
Fruit Pastilles	1	
Plus Strawberries	1	
Orange & Lemon Pastilles	1	
Chocolate Caramels	1	
Haddock	11	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	17	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The samples were obtained at the under-mentioned places with the following results:—

Newtown.—35 Formal samples of milk were purchased.  
1 “Appeal to Cow” sample was taken.

Proceedings were taken against the vendor of a sample of milk that was 20 per cent. deficient in fat. The case was dismissed.

22 Informal samples of miscellaneous articles of food were purchased. One sample of Haddock was certified to be Cod.

3 Formal samples of Haddock were purchased. One was certified to be Cod. The Vendor was fined 10/-.

Welshpool.—14 Formal samples of milk were purchased. 2  
“Appeal to Cow” samples were taken.

Proceedings were taken against the vendor of a sample of milk that was 13 per cent. deficient in fat. Fined £1.

7 Informal samples of miscellaneous articles of food were purchased. All were genuine.

2 Formal samples of Haddock were purchased. Both were genuine.

Llanfyllin.—3 Formal samples of milk were purchased. 2 Formal samples of Haddock were purchased. All were genuine.

Llanidloes.—23 Formal samples of milk were purchased. 1  
“Appeal to Cow” sample was taken.

The vendor of a sample of milk that was 7 per cent. deficient in fat was warned.

7 Informal samples of miscellaneous articles of food were purchased. One Informal sample of Chocolate Allsorts was certified to contain 1/30 grain per lb. of Arsenic.

5 Formal samples of miscellaneous articles of food were purchased.

1 Formal sample of Chocolate Allsorts was certified to contain 1/50th grain per lb. arsenic. Warning issued.

2 Formal samples of Haddock were certified to be Cod.

Proceedings were taken against the vendors of both samples, and each was fined 10/-.

Llandinam.—5 Formal samples of milk were purchased. 1  
“Appeal to Cow” sample was taken.  
1 sample was 7 per cent. deficient in fat. Warning issued.

Machynlleth.—11 formal samples of milk were purchased. 2  
“Appeal to Cow” samples were taken.

The vendor of a sample of milk which contained 9 per cent. of added water was fined £5.

1 sample of milk was 10 per cent. deficient in fat. Warning issued.

3 formal samples of miscellaneous articles of food were purchased. All were genuine.

Montgomery—4 Formal samples of milk were purchased. 1  
sample was certified to contain 22 per cent. of added water. Warning issued.

Llansantffraid.—2 Formal samples of milk were purchased.  
Both were genuine.

Llanfair.—5 Formal samples of milk were purchased. All were genuine.

Caersws.—4 Formal samples of milk were purchased. All were genuine.

Carno.—1 Formal sample of milk was purchased. It was genuine.

Llanymynech.—2 Formal samples of milk were purchased. Both were genuine.

Llangynog.—1 Formal sample of milk was purchased. It was genuine.

All the milk samples were certified to be free from evidence of the presence of either sediment, colouring matter or preservatives.

Five of the samples were purchased from consignments of milk being delivered to schools under the "Milk-in School" Scheme.

The vendors of the sample of "Chocolate Allsorts" were warned. They immediately withdrew all their stocks of this variety of sweetmeat from their 400 branch shops and took up the matter with the firm who manufactured the sweets on their behalf, and from whom they held a warranty as to purity.

As there is a strong resemblance between Cod and Haddock, Cod can easily be passed off as Haddock, and as it can be bought at a price which is much cheaper than that of Haddock, to the unscrupulous tradesman, the temptation to do so is great. Such an offence is most serious, for not only does the vendor of Cod, misrepresenting it to be Haddock, gain an illicit profit, but he is also able to offer the fish at a price which is below that which a competing fishmonger who endeavours to trade honestly is obliged to sell at.

Samples are taken of the lowest priced brands of foods and drugs that are being offered on the market, so that the purchaser can be assured, that although he is obliged to buy of the poorest quality, the article he buys conforms with the minimum standard as to quality and purity as laid down, and that it is free from all substances that are regarded as being injurious to health.

E. WALTER EVANS,  
Inspector of Food & Drugs.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Steps were taken throughout the year to come to some arrangement with neighbouring Counties with the object of securing isolation hospital accommodation under Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929. At the end of the year under review negotiations were still proceeding.

In the meantime cases of infectious disease requiring hospital isolation are sent to the Shrewsbury & Atcham Joint Isolation Hospital, Monkmoor, Nr. Shrewsbury, as in previous years. These arrangements are made through the County Medical Officer of Health.

The following cases were admitted during the year:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	5
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1
— Total				7

The following is a table giving the Infectious Diseases notified in each district in the County during the year ended 1st January, 1938:—

Sanitary District.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Erysipelas.	Acute. Poliomyelitis.
Llanfyllin M.B....	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	...
Llanidloes M. B.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Machynlleth U.D.	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Montgomery M.B.	...	1	8	...	...	...	...	...
Newtown & Llan- llwechaiarn U.D.	4	...	7	...	...	...	...	...
Welshpool M.B.	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	...
Fornden R.D. ...	1	...	11	...	...	...	...	...
Llanfyllin R.D. ...	10	1	16	1	...	...	...	...
Machynlleth R.D.	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Newtown & Llan- idloes R.D. ...	1	2	14	...	...	...	...	2
Total Whole County ... ..	17	4	65	1	2	2	...	2

## VACCINATION.

The duties in connection with Vaccination transferred to the County Council by the Local Government Act, 1929, are carried out by the Public Health and Housing Committee. No change in the administration has taken place. Supervision over the work of the Public Vaccinators and Vaccination Officers is carried out by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics of the work carried out during the year ended December 31st, 1936 are given. This is the last complete period that they are available for.

## VACCINATION.

### Summary of Vaccination Returns for the Calendar Year, 1936.

These Returns were rendered to the Registrar-General, General Register Office, Somerset House, London, W.C.2, by the Public Vaccinators and Vaccinations Officers. In accordance with the Vaccination Order, 1930, a report on them is to be submitted to the County Council. The following is an Analysis of the Returns from each Vaccination Officer's District:—

Registration Sub-districts comprised in V.O.'s Districts.	Number of Births in Birth Lists 1/1/36—31/12/36.	Number Successfully Vaccinated.	Insusceptible of Vaccination.	Number of Statutory Declarations received.	Died Unvaccinated.	Postponed by Medical Certificate.	Removals to Other Districts duly Notified.	Removals to Places Un-known.	Not Accounted for on 31/1/38.
Llanfair-Caer.	40	33	—	3	3	1	—	—	—
Llanrhaiadr	30	23	—	4	1	—	—	—	2
Llanidloes	93	59	—	28	3	1	1	—	1
Llansantffraid	106	53	—	38	3	10	1	1	—
Llanwnnog	46	31	—	5	4	—	—	—	6
„ (Carno)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machynlleth	63	34	—	10	1	—	1	2	15
Montgomery	62	50	—	11	1	—	—	—	—
Newtown	93	60	—	25	4	—	4	—	—
Tregynon	22	12	—	7	1	—	—	—	2
Welshpool	104	49	—	42	6	—	5	2	—
Westbury	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	660	405	0	173	27	12	12	5	26

No. of District.	Public Vaccinator.	Vaccinations.		Total.	Re-Vaccinations.
		Under One Year	One Year and Over.		
1	Dr. E. Cernyw James	} 21	5	26	1
2	Dr. E. Cernyw James				
3	Dr. E. Cernyw James	16	—	16	—
4	Dr. D. Murray Young	18	—	18	—
5	Dr. W. Milton Jones	46	5	51	1
6	Dr. R. D. Thomas	34	2	36	1
7	Dr. R. D. Thomas	8	2	10	3
8	Dr. D. M. Hunter	1	—	1	—
9	Dr. W. E. Gemmell	5	—	5	—
10	Dr. S. J. Stewart	} 38	—	38	1
11	Dr. S. J. Stewart				
12	Dr. S. J. Stewart				
13	Dr. S. J. Stewart	1	—	1	—
14	Dr. W. Milton Jones	13	5	18	—
15	Dr. A. Shearer	87	1	88	10
16	Dr. R. Davies Jones	—	—	—	—
17	Dr. W. E. Ll. Davies	72	1	73	3
18	Dr. Ll. ap I. Davies	13	6	19	—
19	Dr. Dan. E. Davies	10	18	28	3
20	Dr. J. C. Ashton	—	—	—	—
21	Dr. J. C. Ashton	—	—	—	—
Totals ...		383	45	428	23



## CANCER.

Deaths from Cancer at the different periods of life in the Urban and Rural districts.

Age Period.	Urban District.		Rural District.		Whole County.	
	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
25-35 years ...	....	....	2	1	2	1
35-45 ,, ...	1	4	....	....	1	4
45-55 ,, ...	1	4	3	8	4	12
55-65 ,, ...	4	6	11	7	15	13
65-75 ,, ...	4	7	11	4	15	11
75 & upwards.	6	6	9	5	15	11
<b>Totals ...</b>	16	27	36	25	52	52

## PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

The County Health Visitor visits all notified cases of ophthalmia neonatorum, and arrangements are made according to the circumstances in each individual case for the nursing or other treatment necessary.





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