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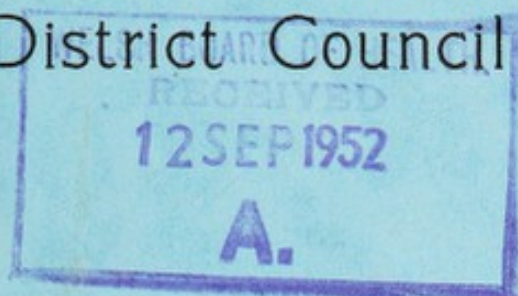
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Mountain Ash  
Urban District Council



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
Medical Officer of Health

1951







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MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the Medical Officer  
of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
THIRTY-FIRST DECEMBER  
ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND FIFTY-ONE

BY

J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND.)

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

DAY OF MEETING :

Second TUESDAY in each month at 5.15 p.m.

*Chairman :*

Councillor Mrs. L. WATTS

*Members :*

Councillor Miss M. GEORGE	Councillor A. H. MAGGS
Councillor W. M. REES	Councillor J. LEWIS
Councillor A. S. J. HILLIER	Councillor E. C. MEREDITH
Councillor Mrs. M. BATH	Councillor S. WRIGHT
Councillor W. I. JONES	Councillor E. A. BENNETT
Councillor A. MORGAN	Councillor S. BLAKE
Councillor H. J. BOYCE	Councillor R. V. NELMS
Councillor E. FROWEN	Councillor W. MORGAN
Councillor G. E. WILLIAMS	Councillor S. T. GRIFFITHS (Retired)

### **Staff of Public Health Department**

*Medical Officer of Health* .....J. LL. WILLIAMS,  
(part time) M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
(Lond.)

*Senior Sanitary Inspector* .....W. J. WATTERS

*Sanitary Inspectors* ..... { G. M. JAMES  
W. C. GRIFFITHS

*Clerk*.....H. J. THOMAS



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MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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# Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
OXFORD STREET,

MOUNTAIN ASH,

August, 1952.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash  
Urban District Council*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary condition of the District, and of the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department.

The Tables of Vital Statistics for the year 1951 are included in this Report.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District (in acres) ...	...	...	10,504
Population ...	...	...	31,360
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1951) according to the Rate Books ...	...	...	8,356
Rateable Value ...	...	...	£106,836
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	...	...	£390

## EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

			Total.	Male.	Female
Live Births :	Legitimate ...	...	533	262	271
	Illegitimate	...	18	8	10
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the resident population	...	...	17.57		
Still-births :	Legitimate ...	...	16	14	2
	Illegitimate	...	1	1	—
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births registered	...	...	29.9		
Death-rate per 1,000 estimated average population	...	...	14.83		
Deaths	...	...	465	248	217

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar General's Short List)

			Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births.
No. 30—Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	—

### BIRTHS

The number of Births registered in the district during the year was 551. The number of males was 270, and females 281. This gives a Birth Rate of 17.57 per 1,000 inhabitants on a population of 31,360 (Registrar General).

The Birth-rate for the year is 2.07 higher than the rate for England and Wales, 0.27 higher than the rate for the County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 0.87 higher than the rate for towns ranging 25,000 to 50,000 inhabitants (Mountain Ash is placed in this group) at the census taken in 1931. The Birth-rate is 1.38 higher than last year.



The number of illegitimate children registered was 19. This is equivalent to an illegitimate rate of 33.4 per 1,000 births registered.

### INFANT MORTALITY

The number of Deaths of infants under one year of age registered in the district during the year was 23, 13 males and 10 females. This gives an infantile death-rate of 41.74 per 1,000 live births registered, and 0.7 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the area.

The infantile death-rate of 41.74 per 1,000 births registered is 6.90 lower than for 1950, and is the lowest ever on record for this area.

The improvement in the Infant Mortality rate over the years has been due mainly to a decrease in the number of deaths that occurred between one month and one year. This group of deaths formerly accounted for the greater proportion of the total deaths and the improvement is due largely to improved medical and social services and modern methods of treatment. The position now has been reversed, and the Neo-Natal deaths—that is deaths under one month of life—make up the larger proportion of the total deaths.

The neo-natal mortality rate (the number of deaths during the first month of life) was 23.59 per 1,000 births, and is 56.5 per cent. of the infantile death-rate.

I append a table showing the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, and the infantile death-rate per 1,000 births for the past ten years. Also, a table comparing the Infant Mortality and Neo-Natal Mortality for Mountain Ash Urban Area with other areas for 1951 :—

<i>Year</i>	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Number of Deaths ... ..	28	27	33	35	32
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	45.7	46.4	51.9	57.0	50.0
<i>Year</i>	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Number of Deaths ... ..	48	30	25	5	23
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	73.0	46.0	46.0	48.64	41.74





**INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.**

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1-2 weeks</i>	<i>2-3 weeks</i>	<i>3-4 weeks</i>	<i>Total under 4 weeks</i>	<i>1-3 4 weeks and under 3 months</i>	<i>3-6 3 months and under 6 months</i>	<i>6-9 6 months and under 9 months</i>	<i>9-12 9 months and under 12 months</i>	<i>Total Deaths under 1 year</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other T.B. Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Pneumonia all forms	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	4
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Accidental	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Premature Birth ...	6	—	1	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other Causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ill-Defined Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b> ...	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23</b>





## DEATHS Registered during the Calendar Year 1951, classified by age and causes.

Name of District—MOUNTAIN ASH.

## ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE.

Cause of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District													Total
	Under One year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 3 years	3 and under 4 years	4 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 20 years	20 and under 35 years	35 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Tuberculosis—Respiratory .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	4	2	14	
Tuberculosis—Other Forms .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Syphilitic Disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Whooping Cough .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Meningococcal Infections .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Malignant Neoplasm: Stomach .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	12	21	
"    "    Lung, Bronchus .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	8	
"    "    Breast .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	5	
"    "    Uterus .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	10	16	29	
Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	
Diabetes .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	13	24	40	
Coronary disease, angina .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	31	45	
Hypertension with heart disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	7	
Other Heart disease .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	7	58	71	
Other circulatory disease .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	9	
Influenza .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	10	14	
Pneumonia .. ..	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	10	22	
Bronchitis .. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	34	51	
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	6	16	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Nephritis and nephrosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	6	
Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Congenital malformations .. ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	8	55	78	
Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
All other accidents .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	3	4	12	
Suicide .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	
Homicide and operations of war .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
GRAND TOTAL .. ..	23	1	—	—	1	1	2	1	15	19	123	279	465	

Source.	INFANT MORTALITY		NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	
	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 live births.	Deaths under four weeks.	Rate per 1,000 live births.
England and Wales ...	—	29.60	—	18.80
Glamorgan County ...	441	36.92	274	22.94
Urban District ...	350	39.43	219	24.67
Rural Districts ...	91	29.65	55	17.92
MOUNTAIN ASH ...	23	41.74	13	23.59

Other Glamorgan Districts :—

Aberdare ...	...	33	54.28	23	37.83
Barry ...	...	24	34.19	15	21.37
Bridgend ...	...	8	35.24	4	17.62
Caerphilly ...	...	27	36.10	18	24.06
Neath Rural ...	...	15	23.55	6	9.42
Pontypridd ...	...	26	39.33	14	21.18
Rhondda ...	...	88	51.64	54	31.69

### STILL BIRTHS

The number of still births registered during the year was 17, and is 2.9 per cent. of the total number of births registered.

### DEATHS (All Ages)

The number of deaths in the district during the year was 465. This gives a death-rate of 14.83 per 1,000 upon an estimated population of 31,360.

The causes of death in the various age groups were as set out in the following tables. It will be noted from the Infant Mortality Table that the greatest single cause of death is Premature Birth.



## Notifiable Diseases

The following tables shew the age and ward distribution of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year under review :—

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Number of Cases recorded on Form 118e (cor- rected figures)</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever ... ..	65	65	17	—
Diphtheria ... ..	3	2	3	—
Pneumonia ... ..	46	46	4	22
Measles ... ..	256	256	1	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	68	68	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	5	5	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	8	5	8	—
Dysentery ... ..	1	1	1	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	1	1	1	—
Erysipelas ... ..	3	3	—	—
Tuberculosis :—				
(a) Pulmonary { Males ...	41	—	11	7
{ Females ...	14	—	—	7
{ Total ...	54	—	11	14
(b) Non- Pulmonary { Males ...	2	—	2	—
{ Females ...	4	—	4	1
{ Total ...	6	—	6	1



# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1951. Analysis of the Total Cases in Age Groups.

Disease	Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 20 years	20 to 35 years	35 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 yrs. & over	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	2	2	6	4	5	28	10	4	2	—	1	1	65
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia ...	5	—	2	2	2	6	—	3	5	5	9	7	46
Measles ...	8	21	28	40	63	84	9	2	1	—	—	—	256
Whooping Cough ...	4	15	9	12	18	9	—	—	1	—	—	—	68
Puerperal Pyrexia...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection ...	—	2	—	—	1	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	8
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3
TOTAL ...	20	40	45	58	89	130	22	11	16	6	10	10	457

**NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1951. Number of Cases notified in each Ward.**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Darran- las</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Penrhiw ceiber</i>	<i>Aber- cynon</i>	<i>Ynysy- bwl</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of Cases removed to Hospital.</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	4	4	13	34	10	—	65	17
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	2	1	—	3	3
Pneumonia ...	1	1	9	31	4	—	46	4
Measles ...	22	66	25	138	5	—	256	1
Whooping Cough ...	5	6	8	29	20	—	68	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	3	2	—	5	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	2	1	1	2	2	—	8	8
Dysentery ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	3	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>36</b>





## Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospitals during 1951.

Name of Institution	W A R D S													
	MALES.							FEMALES.						
	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total
Pontsarn Hospital .. .. .	1	1	1	5	2	—	10	1	—	2	2	3	—	8
North Wales Sanatorium, Denbigh ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Sully Hospital .. .. .	1	3	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	4
Glan Ely Hospital .. .. .	—	—	1	6	—	2	9	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth ..	2	—	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kensington Hospital, St. Brides ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Mardy Isolation Hospital .. ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Downside Hospital, Eastbourne ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T. B. Annexe, Chepstow .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Highland Moors Hospital .. ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. .. .	5	4	3	13	5	3	33	3	1	2	4	10	3	23



## Pulmonary and other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners during 1951

Ages		WARDS														TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY	
		MALES							FEMALES								
		Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhin- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhin- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Males	Females
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	15 to 20 years	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
	20 to 25 years	1	—	2	—	2	—	5	1	1	—	—	—	4	—	2	
	25 to 35 years	1	1	—	1	5	1	9	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	3	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	3	2	2	1	8	1	2	—	—	—	4	—	2	
	45 to 55 years	1	3	1	2	1	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	
55 to 65 years	—	1	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—		
65 years and over	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—		
TOTAL		3	7	8	6	14	2	40	2	5	2	—	4	1	14	7	7
OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
	15 to 20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	20 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	45 to 55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	55 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
TOTAL		—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	2	—	4	—	1



## TUBERCULOSIS

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 population for 1951 was 0.44, and the Other Tuberculosis Diseases Death Rate per 1,000 population was 0.03.

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district for the past ten years :—

			CASES NOTIFIED.		DEATHS.
		Pulmonary	Other Forms.	Pulmonary.	Other Forms.
1942	...	53	14	28	4
1943	...	50	10	30	3
1944	...	70	16	21	4
1945	...	63	7	22	4
1946	...	60	8	22	5
1947	...	48	5	20	6
1948	...	49	10	20	2
1949	...	34	6	18	—
1950	...	44	7	18	6
1951	...	54	6	14	1

I append tables showing the Age and Ward Distribution of all cases notified and the number treated at the various sanatoria :—

# Laboratory Work

## CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

As in previous years, arrangements have been made with the Glamorgan County Council for the chemical and bacteriological examination of specimens from this area at the Public Health Laboratory Service, The Parade, Cardiff.

Medical Practitioners in the district have been informed that outfits (excluding Sputum outfits) for the collection and transmission of specimens can be obtained from the Public Health Department, Oxford Street, Mountain Ash.

The following table shows the nature and number of specimens sent for examination, and the results :—

DISEASE SUSPECTED.	Number of Specimens.	Results.	
		Positive.	Negative.
Diphtheria :—			
Throat Swabs	5	—	5
Tuberculosis :—			
Sputum...	... 4	—	4
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis :—			
Fluid ...	... 1	—	1
Food Poisoning :—			
Faeces ...	... 1	—	1



## WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is under the control of the Council, and, during the year there was a plentiful and continuous supply. All the houses in the area have a piped supply of water from the Council's mains, apart from the outlying farms and premises. In addition, the Trading Estates at Hirwaun and Ynysboeth are supplied. The sources, gathering grounds and reservoirs, apart from the Penderyn Reservoir in Brecknockshire, are within the Mountain Ash Urban Area and, the capacity of the reservoirs is as follows :

Penderyn Reservoir	...	132,000,000	gallons
Clydach Reservoir	...	11,550,000	„
Darranlas Reservoir	...	3,500,000	„
Perthcelyn Reservoir	...	30,000,000	„
Buarth y Capel Reservoir		500,000	„
Gilfachryd Reservoir	...	60,000	„
Cefnpennar Reservoir	...	23,000	„

In addition to the above reservoirs, there is an intake at Rhydygwreiddyn, Llanwonno, which is used occasionally.

The source of each supply is of an upland surface type, and tends to be soft in character. One supply of water, namely, the Darranlas Reservoir, which serves the main part of the town of Mountain Ash, is treated by sand filtration and chlorination, but the other sources are chlorinated only.

The water (raw and treated) from the sources in general use were sampled once monthly and, on occasions, more frequently. Those sources not in general use were sampled when that water was used.

200 samples (100 Chemical and 100 Bacteriological) were taken and submitted to the Analyst at the Public Heath Laboratory, Cardiff, for examination.

The following table gives a summarised report of the Analyst on the bacteriological examinations :—



	Number	Satis- factory	Suspi- cious	Unsatis- factory
CLYDACH :				
Raw.....	12	6	5	1
Treated .....	13	13	—	—
DARRANLAS				
Raw.....	12	4	5	3
Treated .....	16	15	—	1
PERTHCELYN :				
Raw.....	8	7	—	1
Treated .....	9	8	—	1
PENDERYN :				
Raw.....	10	4	3	3
Treated .....	11	10	—	1
RHYDY- GWREIDDYN .....				
Raw.....	7	5	1	1
BUARTH Y CAPEL	2	—	—	2
TOTAL .....	100	72	14	14

No special action, apart from the usual precautions for the safety of the water, was taken.

Apart from the foregoing, the following samples were taken, with the results as shown :—

- (1) Spout, rear of Nantyrysfa Farm, Ynysybwł—  
1 chemical and 1 bacteriological, both satisfactory.
- (2) Stream, 150 yards east of Nantyrysfa Farm—  
1 chemical and 1 bacteriological, both satisfactory.
- (3) Stream, rear of Nantyrysfa Farm—unsatisfactory.
- (4) Nantylanog Stream, Penderyn—1 chemical and 1  
bacteriological, both unsatisfactory.

- (5) Inlet, Ffrwd Brook, Daranalas Reservoir—  
2 chemical and 2 bacteriological, all being unsatisfactory.
- (6) Borehole, Penderyn—  
1 chemical and 1 bacteriological, both satisfactory.

#### PLUMBO SOLVENCY.

The whole of the sources are soft, and there is, therefore a danger of action on lead. All supplies are treated with chalk to eliminate this danger.

#### SWIMMING BATHS.

8 samples (4 chemical and 4 bacteriological) were taken during the year and proved to be satisfactory on examination. Routine treatment of the water with Copper Sulphate was carried out to obviate the growth of algae.



## Food Hygiene Campaign

In my opinion, all premises where food is prepared for sale, sold, offered or exposed, or deposited for the purpose of sale or preparation for sale, should conform to the following conditions :—

- (1) The premises should be provided with sufficient and suitable sanitary accommodation.
- (2) The provision of proper washing facilities, including basin, hot and cold water, soap and towels.
- (3) All premises to be cleansed and, where necessary, re-decorated and repaired.
- (4) Properly covered receptacles provided for the reception of waste matter.
- (5) All premises to be free from vermin.

All grocers, provision dealers, general dealers, butchers, greengrocers, fish fryers premises, and food transporting vehicles, were inspected, and the following conditions found to exist :—

(1) Number of premises with insufficient sanitary accommodation .. .. .	22
(2) Number of premises with insufficient washing facilities ..	82
(3) Number of premises in need of cleansing and redecorating .. .. .	65
(4) Number of premises in need of repair .. .. .	37
(5) Number of premises without properly covered receptacles .. .. .	66
(6) Number of premises infested by rats or mice .. .. .	15

Where appropriate, notices were served and letters sent to the owners of the properties drawing their attention to the various defects. As a result of this, and of interviews with the proprietors or their representatives, all premises with very few exceptions, are up to the required standard.

CANTEENS : In addition to the above, all colliery canteens, railway canteens, and factory canteens were visited and inspected, and extensive improvements carried out.



I may say that the majority of the traders and canteen officials have shown every co-operation with your Sanitary Inspectors.

This Food Hygiene Campaign has meant a great deal of additional duties for the Sanitary Inspectors, and the general improvement in these premises reflects considerable credit upon them.

### **BYE-LAWS UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**

The above Bye-laws came into operation on the 17th July, 1950. All shops where food is sold or prepared for sale have been visited since that date with a view to enforcing the Bye-laws.

### **THE ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment, etc.) REGULATIONS 1947.**

All premises where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold have been inspected frequently, and comply with the above Regulations and have, in my opinion, obtained a very creditable standard of hygiene.

I am pleased to say that all vehicles used in the retail sale of Ice Cream conform to the high standard approved by the Council.

35 samples of Ice Cream were taken and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, with the following results :—

Provisional Grade 1 (Satisfactory).	Provisional Grade 2 (Fair).	Provisional Grade 3 (Un- satisfactory).	Provisional Grade 4 (Very Un- satisfactory).
29	4	1	1

An additional 15 samples were taken, but owing to difficulties at the laboratory, no results were given for these.

**Food Poisoning Outbreaks.**

Total number of outbreaks	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Organisms of other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each
1	1	Nil	Salmonella	Not known

J. LL. WILLIAMS,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*



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MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## Summary of Work done by the Sanitary Inspectors

Houses and premises inspected and re-visited ... .. 3,424

Number of Notices served under Section 93, Public  
Health Act, 1936 :—

Informal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	533
Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	316

**General Repairs—**

Chimneys and fireplaces	...	...	...	...	232
Roofs	...	...	...	...	323
Eavesgutters and downpipes	...	...	...	...	311
External walls	...	...	...	...	83
Windows and doors	...	...	...	...	175
Internal walls, partitions and ceilings...	...	...	...	...	186
Floors	...	...	...	...	77
Internal staircases	...	...	...	...	19
Cupboards and skirtings	...	...	...	...	34
Sculleries and pantries	...	...	...	...	71
Yard pavements and steps	...	...	...	...	123
Dry areas provided	...	...	...	...	2
Wash houses and coal houses	...	...	...	...	24
Boundary and forecourt walls	...	...	...	...	66
Dirty premises	...	...	...	...	17
Fowl cots removed	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	12
Repairs to water services	...	...	...	...	42

**Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936,—**

Number of Notices served	...	...	...	...	49
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**Drainage—**

Cleansed, repaired and relaid	...	...	...	...	121
Drains tested	...	...	...	...	161
Washup sinks provided and repaired	...	...	...	...	9

**Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936—**

Number of Notices served	...	...	...	...	166
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**Sanitary Conveniences—**

General repairs	...	...	...	...	215
Water flushing apparatus repaired and renewed	...	...	...	...	69
Cesspools cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
New sanitary conveniences erected	...	...	...	...	2



**Houses owned by Local Authority—**

In accordance with the instructions of the Housing Committee, a house to house inspection of the Perthcelyn site was carried out, and a detailed report of defects found was submitted to the Committee.

During the year all Council Houses (other than the Perthcelyn site) were inspected jointly by your Sanitary Inspectors and Rent Collectors. Generally the houses were kept in a satisfactory condition. Several occupants were warned respecting the cleanliness of their premises and, in a few instances, it was found necessary to disinfest the premises.

**Legal Proceedings—**

During the year five summonses under Section 93 and five under Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were taken for non-abatement of nuisances.

Two of the summonses under Section 93 and two under Section 45 were withdrawn, on payment of costs, with a written guarantee to carry out the work.

Court Orders to complete the work within six weeks were issued for the other two Section 93 summonses.

A fine of £2 was imposed in the case of one of the summonses under Section 45, and £1 in the case of the remaining two.

**Factory Act, 1947—**

Number of bakehouses on register	...	...	...	12
Number of factories on register	...	...	...	94
Number of visits ...	...	...	...	271
Number of Notices served	...	...	...	3
Number of outworkers	...	...	...	10

**Fish Fryers—**

Number in district	...	...	...	...	21
Number of visits ...	...	...	...	...	117

**Infectious Diseases—**

Number of cases visited :—	...	...	...	81
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	65
Diphtheria	...	...	...	3
Cerebro spinal meningitis	...	...	...	8
Erysipelas	...	...	...	3
Food poisoning	...	...	...	1
Dysentery...	...	...	...	1

**Disinfection—**

Number of houses fumigated after infectious disease...	76
Number of dirty or verminous houses sprayed or fumigated	44

## **FOOD AND DRUGS (Milk and Dairies) ACT, 1944.**

### **The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.**

Powers of supervision of the retail distribution and sampling of milk for bacteriological examination are vested in the Local Authority :—

Number of Distributors on Register	27
Number of Dairies in Area ... ..	18
Number of visits ... ..	91
Number of Notices served ... ..	2

77 samples of milk were taken during the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and chemical tests.

5 samples were found to be unsatisfactory. In these instances, the dairies were visited and inspected and, where necessary, advice given with the result that subsequent samples were satisfactory.

13 samples were submitted for examination for Tubercle Bacilli and found to be satisfactory.

### **MILK (Special Designation) ACT, 1949.**

#### **Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949**

No dealers licences were issued.

#### **MILK (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) REGULATIONS, 1949.**

13 dealers' licences authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised" and 9 licences for the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)" were issued to distributors of milk in this area.

No dealers' licences were issued for the use of the Special Designation "Sterilised."



1 Supplementary licence authorising the use of the Special Designation (Pasteurised) and 1 Supplementary licence for the Special Designation Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) were issued to a distributor of milk in this area.

### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Notices of intended slaughtering of 58 cottagers' pigs were received by the Public Health Department, and the carcasses were inspected by the sanitary inspectors.

#### Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) .....	—	—	—	—	Not known
Number inspected .....	—	—	—	—	58
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .....	—	—	—	—	1.72
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	—	—	—	—	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	—	—	—	—	1.72



A total of 1 ton, 17 cwts., 26 lbs. of foodstuffs was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

	Weight in lbs.
Pork ... ..	585
† Imported and English Beef ...	111
* Bacon ... ..	32
Lamb ... ..	60
Meat Products ... ..	17
Sausages ... ..	66
Poultry ... ..	241
Wet Fish ... ..	119
* Tea ... ..	29½
Tinned Meat ... ..	267
Tinned Goods ... ..	2,558½
Milk Powder ... ..	241
Suet ... ..	7½
Dried Fruit ... ..	1
Cereals... ..	57

\* Returned to Ministry of Food agents through trade channels.

† Returned to Wholesale Distributors, Pontypridd.

## RODENT CONTROL

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

During the year work on the destruction of rats was continued. Private dwellings were treated free of costs, and 50 per cent. of the costs incurred were recovered from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

No grant aid is made by the Ministry in respect of business or commercial premises, and all the expenditure incurred has to be recovered from the owners or occupiers of these premises.

A second full time Rodent Operative was employed by the Council, and details of the work carried out by them are as follows:—

Number of premises visited ... .. 2,901

		Rats.	Mice.
Number of dwelling houses treated	...	135	151
" business premises treated	...	19	2
" schools treated	...	5	3
" canteens treated	...	3	1
" cinemas treated	...	1	—
" refuse tips treated	...	12	—
" embankments treated	...	42	—
" watercourses treated	...	27	—
" piggeries treated	...	2	—
" sewer beds treated	...	5	—
" Local Authority premises treated	...	2	1
" back lanes treated	...	2	—
" culverts treated	...	1	—

#### BLOCK TREATMENTS :—

The following block treatments were carried out during the year :—

- (a) Council's refuse tip, river embankments and other embankments surrounding the Sewage Disposal Works, Abercynon. The estimated kill was 542 rats.
- (b) Belle Vue Hotel, Penrhiwceiber, Belle Vue Street, and river embankments, giving an estimated kill of 75 rats.



- (c) Embankments of River Cynon, from boundary with Aberdare to Abercynon, and both embankments of River Taff from Abercynon to the boundary with Pontypridd—estimated kill, 2,880.

The estimated kill of rats throughout the area, excluding the sewers, for the year, was as follows :—

Mountain Ash	...	...	4,435
Abercynon	...	...	5,837
Ynysybwll...	...	...	2,083
Total	...	...	<u>12,355</u>

All estimated kills are worked out in accordance with the formula of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

#### SEWER TREATMENT :—

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers throughout the area, comprising 618 manholes, was carried out, one from 28th May to 20th June, 1951, and the other from 26th November to 20th December, 1951.

367 manholes showed a pre-bait take and 37 manholes showed complete pre-bait take on one or both of the days. As there is no check on the poison take in sewers, it is impossible to work out an estimated kill.

The treatments were carried out by the two Rodent Operatives, assisted by two men obtained from the Surveyor's Department.

All sewer beds and refuse tips were treated at the same time as the sewers. These treatments were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.



The bait used in the first treatment was Sausage Rusk and the poison Zinc Phosphide, and for the second treatment, the bait was Bread Mash and the poison Arsenious Oxide.

The nature and development of the Mountain Ash Urban area and the close proximity of the dwelling houses, etc., to the river makes rodent infestation and re infestation inevitable, and will necessitate constant survey, treatment and supervision.

W. J. WATTERS,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*





