Neath 0928

GENERAL INFORMATION.

SITE. The town lies at the mouth of the river Neath, where the valley opens, extending from the sea at the south extremity to a distance of less than 3 miles from it. The lie of the valley at this part is practically due north and south. The habitable portion is limited laterally by rising ground to the east and much marsh land along with the river to the west. The river is tidal for a mile above the town and overflows at spring-tides upon the marsh lands.

The greater portion of the town is built on ground within less than 30 feet of datum level, a condition which has caused a good deal of difficulty in severing and avoiding flooding in lowest lying parts.

The soil is of gravel over shales in the old town (North end); the middle portion is intermixed with clay; and the southern portion (Briton Ferry) lies to some extent on land rescued from the sea. The town is upon coal measures, which have been worked from time to time but no mining has been carried out for the past 25 years.

WATER. This is an upland surface gravitation supply. There are 4 storage reservoirs, the furthest distant being within 2 miles of the borough boundary. A subsidiary supply for houses on highest levels is obtained from the Ystrad Fellte reservoir (Neath Rural District), to a maximum amount of 50 million gallons per year. Repeated analyses, chemical and bacteriological, show that the water maintains a high average standard of purity. Sand filtration is employed, but the filter area is very limited. The majority of the works get their water for mechanical uses from the Neath Canal, with drinking water from the public supply.

SEWERAGE. The system is mainly water-carriage, there being 3 outfalls into the river, one in the north ward, two in Briton Ferry, near the mouth of the river. The Neath Rural District also discharge sewage, untreated, into the river about half a mile above the town, well within the tidal area. There is a small bacterial installation, treating the sewage from about 150 houses, all built fairly recently at the extreme north-east of the borough, where levels would not permit connection with the old sewers. Repeated tests of the effluent, which enters the river, show a fairly good degree of purification. The total absence of dwellings upon the river's banks prevents any inconvenience to the inhabitants from the sewage-laden water. From time to time swimming regattas are held, although the Town Council, on my report, has called public attention to the extreme undesirability and risk of such proceedings. Beyond a few outlying truly rural dwellings the entire borough is supplied with water-closets, a goodly number of which are still hand-flushed.

INDUSTRIES. The chief industry is i- the manufacture of Tinplates along with Galvanizing and Steel works, whilst neighbouring coal fields give employment to a large number of men. A small number of single women find employment in Tinplate and similar industries. There is no married-women employment. The presence of the Anglo-Persian Oil Refineries on the west side of the valley not only gives employment to many men living in the town, but is also one of much in the minds of the inhabitants generally throug the more or less offensive odours which emanate from the processe in use there. One hears now and again that the difficulties in t removal of this cause of trouble will be very soon overcome, but there is no doubt that this goal is as far off as ever.

Sanitation. The system is mainly water-carriage, the refuse being discharged into the river, one in the north ward, two in Britain Ferry, near the mouth of the river. The North Ward Sleeping also discharges sewage, untreated, into the river about half a mile above the town, well within the tidal area. There is a small bacterial installation, treating the sewage from about 12 houses, all built fairly recently at the extreme north-east of the borough, where known levels could not permit satisfactory the old sewers. Repeated tests of the effluent, which enters the river, show a fairly good degree of purification. The total of sewage of dwellings upon the river's banks provide our Bacteriologist to the inhabitants from the sewage-laden water. From the to time authority requires one test, although the Town Council by report, has called public attention to the extreme undesirability and risk of such proceedings. Beyond a few outlying rural dwellings the entire borough is supplied with water-close a goodly number of which are still back-closets.

Industrial. The chief industry is the manufacture of plates along with Galvanizing and steel work, whilst metallic coal fields give employment to a large number of men. A small number of single women find employment in tinplate and similar industries. There is no marine-coast employment. The general of the Aberavon Tin Defilerers on the west side of the but only gives employment to many men living in the town, but also one 28 miles in the midst of the inhabitants generally in the more or less offensive smoke which emanates from the in the Bay. The basic sea and again that the difficulties removal of this cause of trouble will be very soon overcome. Time is no doubt that Taloxook is on the lift at over.

HOSPITALS.

WATER SUPPLY.

Swansea General and Eye Hospital, 8 miles distant, is the recognised institution for the district. Owing to its limited accomodation much difficulty obtains in connection with its large waiting list. The existence in the borough of the Pearhiewtyn Poor-law Infirmary, which when in use as a military hospital during the war was regarded as one of the finest hospitals in Wales, points to the possibility of its advantages for the general population. At present it is a Workhouse, though various schemes, with which the local Board of Guardians, is in sympathy, have been suggested whereby it might be utilised for hospital purposes. In one recent case to which I was called of a serious motor accident I advised removal of the patients to Pearhiewtyn. This was done, and proved a fitting method of dealing with emergencies.

Ambulance facilities are given by the Police Ambulance, which does much excellent work.

NURSING OF THE SICK.

The northern portion of the Borough is covered by the Neath (Queen's) Nursing Association, whilst the southern has the Briton Ferry District Association. Both these institutions are heartily supported by public charity. Closer co-operation between the local associations and the public health work would tend to public benefit, and stimulate the interest of both nursing staffs. Originally, at my suggestion, the whole of the public nursing was undertaken by the Neath Nursing Association, to mutual advantage, but as public work extended it was found necessary for the borough to establish its own staff, to get the benefit of a full-time service. For a little time thereafter it was feasible to have the co-operation of the Queen's Nurses in the public sphere, but unfortunately this state of affairs was not made permanent.

HOSPITALS.

Possess General and Eye Hospital, 8 miles distant, is the recognised institution for the district. Owing to its limited accommodation much difficulty obtains in connection with its large waiting list. The existence in the borough of the Pembrokeshire Infirmary, which when in use as a military hospital during the war was regarded as one of the finest hospitals in Wales, enhances the possibility of its advantages for the general population. At present it is a Workhouse, though various schemes, with which the local Board of Guardians, in its capacity, have been suggested whereby it might be utilised for hospital purposes. In one use at case to which it was called of a serious motor accident I advised removal of the patient to Pembrokeshire. This was done, and proved a fitting measure of dealing with emergencies.

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MEETING OF THE BLOC.

The northern portion of the Borough is covered by the Local Government Association, while the southern has the Fishguard District Association. Both these institutions are heartily supported by public spirit. Closer co-operation between the local associations and the public health work would lead to public benefit, and eliminate the interest of both working clerks. Originally, at a conference the whole of the public meeting was undertaken by the Local Government Association, to mutual advantage, but as public work grew it was found necessary for the Borough to establish its own staff, to get the benefit of a full-time service. For a little time there was feasible to have the co-operation of the Council's officers in public affairs, but unfortunately that state of affairs was not continued.

WATER SUPPLY.

The public reservoirs are 4 in number, namely 3 in the North Ward, and 1 at Briton Ferry. There is also a supplementary supply obtained from the Neath Rural Ystradfellte reservoir. The latter is mainly drawn upon for the higher ground in the North and South Wards, though it may be taken to supplement the general supply too. During last year the condition of the gathering ground came under my close inspection, owing to complaints received from time to time. A complete overhaul of the upper Gnoll Pond feeders showed that considerable improvements could be made, as conditions had been introduced recently which leant towards possible serious damage to the water. One more than doubtful feeder was piped completely away from the reservoir, and others were tunnelled over, so that contamination from animals, which was possible at certain points, was avoided. In one area of Briton Ferry Ward, where owing to faulty construction of old mains the supply had been very intermittent, especially on Sundays and Mondays when there was large demand on the lower ground, the Council constructed tanks at my suggestion, which were filled during hours when the drawing was small, whereby a constant supply was made available for those houses. The gathering ground at several points was also improved, there being a fairly extensive area at Caerbryn consisting of boggy land, from which much doubtful water had been received at times, especially succeeding showers that came on after a lengthy period of drought. I accompanied the Water Engineer over the ground on a good many occasions, to note the possible defects and discuss suggestions as to improvements. I have to thank him for the ready co-operation. which he gave.

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RAINFALL IN NEATH, IN THE COUNTY OF GLAMORGAN.

Rain Gauge.

Diameter of Funnel -- 5in.

Height of Top - Above ground -- 1ft.
Above Sea level - 204 ft.

Month.	Total depth.	Greatest fall in 24 hours.		No. of days with ·01 or more recorded.
	Inches.	Inches.	Date.	
January.	4·26	·82	1	19
February.	8·78	1·24	25	23
March.	1·16	·19	25	12
April.	3·55	·94	4	15
May.	6·59	·99	29	25
June.	Nil.	-	-	-
July.	3·91	·85	26	16
August.	8·98	2·12	12	15
September.	4·60	1·12	19	16
October.	6·39	1·63	20	16
November.	3·40	·88	1	8
December.	4·20	1·01	28	20
	55·22			185

Particulars of shortage of water supply:-

From 5th July to 19th August 1925, supply cut off from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. - Gnoll supply only-- supplying North and South Wards.

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	Inches.	Inches.	Date.	
January.	4.28	·82	1	19
February.	8.78	1.24	25	23
March.	1.16	·10	25	12
April.	3.55	·24	4	15
May.	6.39	·90	29	25
June.	Nil.	-	-	-
July.	3.31	·85	28	16
August.	8.98	2.12	12	15
September.	4.80	1.12	19	16
October.	8.39	1.65	20	18
November.	3.40	·88	1	8
December.	4.20	1.01	28	20
	55.22			186

Particulars of shortage of water supply:-

From 5th July to 19th August 1923, supply cut off from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. - Small supply only-- supplying North and South Yards.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S Returns for 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	M.	F.
All causes	206	195
1. Enteric fever.		
2. Small-pox.		
3. Measles.	4	7
4. Scarlet fever		1
5. Whooping cough	7	4
6. Diphtheria	5	3
7. Influenza	6	9
8. Encephalitis Lethargica		
9. Memingoccal meningitis		
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory system ...	18	10
11. Other Tuberculous diseases	1	5
12. Cancer, malignant disease	15	20
13. Rheumatic fever		1.
14. Diabetes	2	2
15. Cerebral haemorrhage &c.	10	12
16. Heart disease	34	35
17. Arterio-scherosis.	5	4
18. Bronchitis.	10	6
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	20	12
20. Other repiratory diseases	4	3
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodum	3	
22. Diarrhoea.&c. (under 2 years)	2	2
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis		1
24. Cirrhosis of liver		1
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	5	5
26. Puerperal sepsis		
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition		3
28. Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth.	8	7
29. Suicide	3	
30. Other deaths from violence	8	5
31. Other defined diseases.	35	36
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year (Total	28	22
Deaths of Infants under 1 year (Illegitimate	1	1
Total Births	393	371
Legitimate.	384	360
Illegitimate.	9	11
POPULATION. ... ... 34,600.		

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1. Enteric fever.		
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4. Scarlet fever		1
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7. Influenza	6	9
8. Encephalitis lethargica		
9. Meningococal meningitis		
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory system ...	18	10
11. Other Tuberculous diseases	1	5
12. Cancer, malignant disease	16	20
13. Rheumatic fever		1.
14. Diabetes	2	2
15. Cerebral haemorrhage &c.	10	12
16. Heart disease	34	35
17. Arterio-sclerosis.	5	4
18. Bronchitis.	10	6
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	20	12
20. Other respiratory diseases	4	3
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	
22. Diarrhoea.&c. (under 2 years)	2	2
23. Appendicitis and typhlitis		1
24. Cirrhosis of liver		1
25. Acute and chronic nephritis	6	5
26. Puerperal sepsis		
27. Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition		3
28. Congenital debility and malformation,premature birth.	8	7
29. Suicide	3	
30. Other deaths from violence	8	5
31. Other defined diseases.	35	36
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year { Total	28	22
Deaths of Infants under 1 year { Illegitimate	1	1
Total Births	383	371
Legitimate.	384	360
Illegitimate.	9	11

POPULATION. ... ... 24,600.

Living Birtha notified- arranged according to Wards.

Registrar's Figures.		North Ward.	South Ward.	Briton Ferry Ward.
Male.	393.	120	152	100
Female.	371	98	149	95
Total	764.	218	3 01	195

Deaths of Infants in Wards.

North Ward.	South Ward.	Briton Ferry Ward.
17	23	11

Total Deaths (including Infants) according to Wards.

Ward.	Male	Female.	Total.
North.	94	70	164.
South.	63	68	131
Briton Ferry.	49	57	106
Aggregate.	206	195	401

Living Births notified- arranged according to Wards.

Registrar's Figures.	North Ward.	South Ward.	Brixton Ferry Ward.
Male. 393.	120	152	100
Female. 371	98	149	95
Total 764.	218	301	195

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17	23	11

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Ward.	Male	Female.	Total.
North.	94	70	164.
South.	83	88	171
Brixton Ferry.	49	57	106
Aggregate.	206	195	401

CAUSE OF DEATH. AGES AT DEATH.

	under 12 months.	over 1 & under 5.	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 65	70 to 80	80 to 90	over 90
DIPHTHERIA.....		7															
PNEUMONIA.....	9	9	3			1	2			5	2		1	2	2		
TUBERCULOSIS (PULMONARY		2		2	2	6	3	1	5		4	1	2	1			
TUBERCULOSIS (OTHER FORMS	1	4		1	1					1							
CANCER.....								2	1	3	2	4	1	10	12		
INFLUENZA.....	1			1		1		1					2	3	2		
BRONCHITIS.....	2	2										1	2	6	4	1	
RHEUMATIC FEVER.....				1		1											
HEART DISEASE.....				1	1	1	2	1		2	1	5	7	23	15	2	
ARTERIO-SCLEROSIS.....														1	3		
APOPLEXY.....									1	1			3	14	6	1	
BRIGHT'S DISEASE				1	1		2			1		2		4	1		
PROSTATIC DISEASE															1		
APPENDICITIS.....						1											

CAUSE OF DEATH.	AGES AT DEATH (cont)																	
	under 12 months.	over 1 & under 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 35	35 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50	50 to 55	55 to 60	60 to 70	70 to 80	80 to 90	over 90
OTHER ALIMENTARY DISEASES	1				1			1	1				1	2	1		
CHILD BIRTH.....																	
ACCIDENTS.....	3	4		1		2	3	1									
SENILITY.....								1	1			1	1				
MENTAL DISEASE.....															11	13	2
ACCIDENTS OF BIRTH (INCLUDING PREMATURITY)	17					1		1		1	2	1		4			
WHOOPING COUGH & MEASLES.....	7	15															
OTHER DEFINED DISEASES.....	10	3	3		3		2	1	2	2	3	4	4	8	3		
Total.....	51	46	6	6	9	14	13	9	11	16	13	19	24	78	61	17	2

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGES AT DEATH (years)																			
	under 1	1 & under 5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	85	over 85
OTHER VITAMINE-FREE DISEASES	1					1			1	1					1		1	2	1	
CHILD BIRTH							2		1											
ACCIDENTS	2	4			1			2	1	1				1	1					
SENILITY																		11	14	2
MENTAL DISEASES							1		1		1	2	1			4				
ACCIDENTS OF BIRTH (INCLUDING PRENATALITY)	14																			
NURSING COACH & MENTALS	7	18																		
OTHER DEFINED DISEASES	10	2		2		2		2	1	2	2	2	4	4	2	2				
Total	28	24		2	2	2	14	12	2	11	14	12	12	14	12	10	14	14	15	2

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0				1				
1.		1	3	2	1	1		1
5	1			2				
10	1	2		1	1	1		
15	5	3	2	1	1	1		
20	3	3	2	2	3	3		
25	4	3		1		2		
35	4	2			4	3		1
45	4				4	1		
55	1				3			
65 and upwards								
Totals.	23	14	7	10	17	12	-	2

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases.						
Notified.	Treated. At home.	Treated. In hospital	Vision un-impaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths
1.	1	-	1	-	-	-

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0				1				
1.		1	3	2	1	1		1
5	1			2				
0	1	2		1	1	1		
5	5	3	2	1	1	1		
0	3	3	2	2	3	3		
5	4	3		1		2		
5	4	2			4	3		1
5	4				4	1		
5	1				3			
5 and upwards								
Totals.	23	14	7	10	17	12	-	2

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases.						
Notified.	Treated.		Visits		Total	Deaths
	At home.	In hospital.	Hospital.	Hospital.	Visits.	
1.	1	-	1	-	-	-

C A N C E R.

The annexed table shows the distribution of site of this disease. It will be noted that the sex distribution was

Site of Disease.	
Males	14
Females	19

In the list of cases the outstanding feature is the large number of cases where the intestinal tract was involved, there being in the 33 only 9 which may be considered outside this area. It will be also seen that there were only 2 csaes of malignant disease of the Breast proving fatal, though this was the great site of the disease to which attention was in former days specially drawn. Further the age of these two is noteworthy, namely 70 years in both cases. The most common age at which Breast Cancer used to be found was from 45 to 55 years.

Despite the greatest efforts by the medical profession in all parts of the world the Cancer Problem is as far off solution as ever. The only hope seems through surgery, which, if early applied, seems to give chances of cure that are offered by no other form of treatment.

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C.A.N.C.E.R.

Deaths from accidents - 1925.

Site of Disease.	Ages at Death. Male.	Ages at Death. Female.
Mouth and Throat. (4 cases)	45. 67. 78.	76.
Oesophagus. (3 cases)	51.	54. 67.
Stomach. (12 cases)	32. 43. 60. 61. 69. 74. 75.	61. 64. 71. 77.
Liver. (5 cases)	40.	50. 63. 66. 73.
Pancreas. (1 case)	- - - -	73.
Bladder. (1 case)	45.	- - -
Breast. (2 cases)	- - -	70. 70.
Uterus. (4 cases)	- - - -	36. 41. 50. 58.
Leg. (1case)	70.	- - - -
Unstated.	- - - -	33.

Site of Disease.	Ages at Death. Male.	Ages at Death. Female.
Mouth and Throat. (4 cases)	45. 67. 78.	76.
Oesophagus. (3 cases)	51.	54. 67.
Stomach. (12 cases)	32. 42. 60. 61. 69. 74. 75.	61. 64. 71. 77.
Liver. (5 cases)	40.	50. 53. 68. 73.
Pancreas. (1 case)	- - - -	73.
Bladder. (1 case)	46.	- - -
Breast. (2 cases)	- - -	70. 70.
Uterus. (4 cases)	- - - -	36. 41. 50. 58.
Leg. (1case)	70.	- - - -
Unstated.	- - -	33.

STATISTICS OF MENTAL DISEASE.

Years of residence. | Number of | Ages on admission.

Deaths from accidents - 1925.

Years of residence	Cause of Death.	Number of	Ages on admission. Male.	Ages on admission. Female.
2 years.		7		
3	Drowning.	7	51.	
	Overlying.		3 months.	5 weeks.
4	"	5		
5	Steelworks accidemt.	6	36	
6	"	4		
7	Cement works accidemt.	4	28	
8	Dismantling machimery.	2	27	
9	"	-		
	Scalds.			22 months 15 do. 15 do.
10	"	3		
10 to 15	Unknown.	8		1 day.
15 to 20	Motor Bus Smash.	9	56	
20 to 25	Gun Shot.	10	19 months	
over 25	Run over by Motor Bus.	6	12	
	Suicides (2) (Drinking Lysol)	44 58.	49 58	

	Total admissions.	Number discharged.	Number died.
1923.	20	18	21.
1924.	19	20	28.
1925.	18	4	4.

Deaths from accidents - 1925.

Cause of Death.	Age. Male.	Age. Female.
Drowning.	51.	
Overlying.	3 months.	5 weeks.
Steelworks accident.	36	
Cement works accident.	28	
Dismantling machinery.	27	
Scalds.		22 months 15 do. 15 do.
Unknown.		1 day.
Motor Bus Smash.	56	
Gun Shot.	19 months	- - -
Run over by Motor Bus.	12	
Suicides (2) (Drinking Lysol)	49 58	

STATISTICS OF MENTAL DISEASE.

Years of residence.	Number of patients.	Ages on admission.
under 1 year.	18	(M) 75,69,66,61,60,58, 35,17. (F) 75,68,60,47,31,30, 23,20, 7.
2 years.	7	(M) 68,62, 51,27,26. (F) 39, 29.
3 "	7	M. 69, 51,47,17. F 48,45, 23.
4 "	5	M. 70, 60,19. F 44,27.
5 "	6	M. 62, 56,46,18.F.51,39.
6 "	4	M.25, 22, 17. F.43.
7 "	4	M. 27, F. 65,33, 37.
8 "	2	F. 42, 26.
9 "	-	
10 "	2	F. 46, 44.
10 to 15 "	8	M. 42,35,33, 28,23, 23, 21. F.59.
15 to 20 "	9	M.52, 47,46,43,38,35,26. F. 38, 36.
20 to 25 "	10	M. 53,49,45,30, F. 45,40,34,33,33,32.
over 25 "	6	M.69,54,39. F. 59,50 47.
	88.	M.49. F. 39.

Total admissions.		Number discharged.	Number died.
1923.	20	18	21.
1924.	19	20	28.
1925.	18	4	4.

[illegible] OF MENTAL DISORDER.

Years of residence.	Number of patients.	Ages on admission.
under 1 year.	16	(M) 76,69,66,61,60,58 36,17. (F) 75,68,60,47,31,30 23,20, 7.
2 years.	7	(M) 68,62, 51,27,26. (F) 39, 29.
3 "	7	M. 69, 51,47,17. F 48,45, 23.
4 "	5	M. 70, 60,19. F 44,27
5 "	8	M. 62, 56,46,18.F.51,
6 "	4	M.26, 22, 17. F.43.
7 "	4	M. 27, F. 65,33, 37.
8 "	2	F. 42, 26.
9 "	-	
10 "	2	F. 46, 44.
10 to 15 "	8	M. 42,36,33, 28,22, 21. F.59.
15 to 20 "	9	M.52, 47,46,43,38,35, F. 38, 36.
20 to 25 "	10	M. 53,49,45,30, F. 45,40,34,33,32,32.
over 25 "	6	M.69,64,39. F. 69,60
	88.	M.49. F. 39.

Total admissions.	Number discharged.	Number died.
1923. 20	18	21.
1924. 19	20	28.
1925. 18	4	4.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The scheme for provision of a Joint Isolation Hospital (with the Rural District of Neath) continues under discussion as to possible sites. The routine action taken in this borough, on receipt of a notification, is for the Nurse to visit the case, noting any possible source of infection, seeing all contacts, excluding school children, and hanging up in a prominent position the following notice:

Borough of Neath.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

THE PRESENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE OF DANGEROUS CHARACTER has been notified.

VISITING PERSONS, whether RELATIVES OR NOT, are cautioned against ENTERING THE HOUSE without permission.

All persons residing here are cautioned against frequenting NEIGHBOURS' HOUSES, ALL PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT, PLACES OF WORSHIP, etc., without express consent of the Medical Officer of Health.

- - - - - - - - -

N.B. THIS NOTICE TO BE HANDED BACK TO THE NURSE AT THE END OF THE PERIOD OF INFECTION

(Signed) J.M.Morris, Medical Officer of Health.

- - - - - - - - -

Disinfection is duly carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

In the case of school children, whether contacts or affected, no child is allowed to resume attendance without a certificate signed by myself, after I have examined the child. The head teacher is therein asked to present the child to the school nurse at her subsequent visit to school (all schools are visited several times weekly by the nurses).

With regard to Diphtheria, the Council supply Antitoxin to practitioners, and all swabs are forwarded to the Public Health

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With regard to Diphtheria, the Council supply Antitoxin to practitioners, and all swabs are forwarded

Laboratory, Cardiff.

I also have a weekly notice to all the practitioners in the Borough, as follows :

Borough of Neath.

Public Health Department

To the Medical Practitioners of the Borough.

The Medical Officer of Health begs to inform you that he has received the following notifications of Infectious Disease during the week ended date hereof.

DISEASE: LOCALITY:

- - - - - - - - - -

Several of the medical practitioners have told me that they find this weekly "reminder" of considerable help to them very often.

- - - - - - - - - -

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- - - - - - - - - -

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications , with comparative figures for 1924 and 1923, the only years available for the extended borough, were as follows:

	1925	1924	1923
Scarlet Fever	53	33	4
Diphtheria	123	167	177
Puerperal Fever	1	4	4
Pneumonia	52	49	18
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	3
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	38	40	48
Do (Non-Pulmonary)	16	18	11
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	3	3
Enteric Fever	1	0	0

PUERPERAL FEVER.

NON - NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

ENTERIC.

It will be noted that after a long perid of immunity of this fever one case was notified. From enquiries which I made I have no doubt that the case was imported, the person affected gave a history of having been from home for some weeks before the disease occurred, and there was a definite source stated in the fact that on a likely occasion in time the child had been bathing in an insanitary situation. No other case could be associated with the outbreak, and the child made a god recovery.

ENCEPHALITIS.

The one case notified was of doubtful diagnosis. I consulted with several medicd officers over it, but there was much uncertainty So far no sequelae have arisen in connection with it.

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Enteric Fever	1	0	0

- - - - - -

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MIGRAINALITIS.

The one case notified was of doubtful diagnosis. I consulted with several medical officers over it, but there was much uncertainty. So far no sequelae have arisen in connection with it.

M I D W I F E R Y.

D I P H T H E R I A.

It will be noted that 123 cases were notified during the year, of which 7 were fatal. This compares in fatalities with 8 for 1924, and 22 for 1923.

The type of disease commonly met with had none of the virulent characters mentioned in my reports for previous years, and the situation of the cases was not confined to the old borough, as was the experience of 1923 and former years. Cases were scattered over the area.

P U E R P E R A L F E V E R.

One case was notified. There were no deaths attributed to Puerperal Sepsis.

NON - NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

It will be seen that there were 11 deaths from Measles, and a like number from Whooping Cough.

T U B E R C U L O S I S.

The following Table gives the incidence and ages of cases notified, and deaths.

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T U B E R C U L O S I S .

The following Table gives the incidence and ages of cases notified, and deaths.

MIDWIFERY.

The number of practising midivws in the borough is 12, 11 being trained, and 1 untrained. Of notifications of births received 690 were from trained, 50 from untrained. The number of still-births respectively was, under care of trained midwife 25, under untrained 4.

Of the 690 attended by trained persons 360 came under the care of the midwives attached to the local Queen's Nursing Association. In this connection it is well-known that the private midwife has considerable difficulty in competing with thr Association, since this body, which depends solely upon the charitable contributions of the district, takes up a somewhat wide sphere, frequently attending where pecuniary circumstances permit of the engagement of a private midiwife. Further, rumours reach me that the scale of charges for attendance upon the same class is less with the Association than that of the private nurse.

The relations between the practising midwives and the Health Visitors continuex to be excellent, as every effort is made by both to ensure active co-operation. All midlwves encourage to the utmost breasti-feeding of the baby, and there is a general desire to adhere to the wish which I have expressed, that the 4-hourly interval shall be followed from the birth of the child. The statistics of the incidence of both Puerperal Fever and Ophthalmia Neonatorum show that the work is well done.

As bearing on this I append statistics of enquiries as to the number of births in "Apartments", also in re investigation into the still-birth question, the interval between successive recent pregnancies, the age of mothers with reference to the number of children and statistics of illegitimacy.

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As bearing on this I append statistics of enquiries as to the number of births in "Apartments", also in re investigation into the still-birth question, the interval between successive recent pregnancies, the age of mothers with reference to the number of children and statistics of illegitimacy.

Births in 1925 with reference to Apartments.

	North ward.	South ward.	Briton Ferry ward.	Total
Apartments other than with relatives.	41	61	51	153.
Apartments kept.	5	15	1	21
Apartments with relatives.	45	84	40	169
	91	160	92	343
(Totals notified	218	301	195	-- 764)

Apartments in reference to number of pregnancy. (Total number of pregnancies in brackets)

No of pregnancy.	No in apartments.	
1st.	165	(224)
2nd.	78	(158)
3rd	45	(113)
4th	17	(79)
5th	7	(37)
6th	4	(27)
7th	2	(28)
8th	1	(15)
	319	

Apartments kept with reference to number of pregnancy

2nds	2
3rd	3
4th	5
5th	3
6th	2
7th	4

B I R T H L E T E R Y.

Births in 1925 with reference to Apartments.

	North ward.	South ward.	Briton Ferry ward.	Total
Apartments other than with relatives.	41	81	61	183.
Apartments kept.	5	18	1	21
Apartments with relatives.	45	84	40	189
(Totals notified	218	360	192	770)

Apartments in reference to number of pregnancy. (Total number of pregnancies in brackets)

No of pregnancy.	No in apartments.	
1st.	188	(224)
2nd.	78	(188)
3rd.	45	(113)
4th	17	(79)
5th	7	(37)
6th	4	(27)
7th	2	(28)
8th	1	(18)
	319	

Apartments kept with reference to number of pregnancy

2nds	2
3rd	3
4th	3
5th	3
6th	2
7th	4

Still- births. (29)

No. of Pregnancy.	Facts suggesting cause.	Previous parturient history.
1st. (13 cases)	Forceps. (7 cases)	
	Version. 1 "	
	Craniotomy 1 "	
	Measles. 1 "	
	Eclampsia 1 "	
	Nephritis 2 "	
2nd (5 cases)	Forceps.	1 living child.
	Anencephalus.	1 died aged 4 (Diphtheria)
	Placenta Praevia.	1 dead (Premature.)
	Influenza; Premature (B.B.A.)	1 living.
	Unknown. (Macerated)	1 living.
3rd (4 cases)	Pneumonia (?T.B.) fatal.	1 living 1 dead.
	Hydramnios.	2 living.
	Strain of lifting.	2 living.
4th (6 cases)	Forceps.	2 living.
	Difficult Labour	3 living.
	Antepartum Haemorrhage	3 living.
	Influenza.	3 living.
	Cord Strangulation.	1st S.B. 2nd living; 3rd died at 6 days from "Haemorrhage"
	History.	2 mis: 1 S.B.
	Twins. (1 Still-born: 1 lived 2 days) mother dying from Nephritis.	2 living.
10th (1 case)	No facts.	7 living.

Still- births. (29)

No. of Pregnancy.	Facts suggesting cause.	Previous particulars history.
1st. (13 cases)	Forceps. (7 cases)	
	Version. 1 "	
	Craniotomy 1 "	
	Manual. 1 "	
	Eclampsia 1 "	
	Nephritis 2 "	
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	Hydramnios.	2 living.
	Strain of lifting.	2 living.
	Forceps.	2 living.
4th (6 cases)	Difficult labour	3 living.
	Antepartum Haemorrhage	3 living.
	Influenza.	3 living.
	Cord Strangulation.	1st S.B. 2nd living; 3rd at 8 days fr "Haemorrhage
	History.	2 mis: 1 S.I
	Twins. (1 Still-born: 1 lived 2 days) mother dying from Nephritis.	2 living.
10th (1 case)	No facts.	7 living.

Interval between sucessive Pregnancies.

The following figures have been ascertained. They have material bearing upon many social questions such as Housing, Mental Deficiency, practice of Birth Control, etc.

Interval.	No. of cases.	
10 months	2	
11 "	5	
12 "	17	
13 "	10	
14 "	10	
15 "	12	
16 "	11	
17 "	15	(i.e. 82 under 18 months.)
18 "	25	
19 "	11	
20 "	17	
21 "	8	
22 "	13	
23 "	4	(i.e. 78 from 18 months to 2 years.)
24 "	38	
25 "	26	
26 "	19	
27 "	11	
28 "	18	
29 "	17	
30 "	21	
31 to 35 months	32	(i.e. 182 from 2 to 3 years.)
over 3 years.	86	
" 4 "	55	
" 5 "	38	
" 6 "	29	
" 7 "	14	
" 8 "	13	
" 9 "	7	
" 10 "	3	
" 11 "	8	
over 12 years (2)		
over 19 " (2) and one in each for 14, 15, 18, and 23 years.		

Interval between successive Pregnancies.

The following figures have been ascertained. They have material bearing upon many social questions such as Housing, Mental Deficiency, practice of Birth Control, etc.

Interval.	No. of cases.	
10 months	2	
11 "	6	
12 "	17	
13 "	10	
14 "	10	
15 "	12	
16 "	11	
17 "	15	(i.e. 82 under 18 months.)
18 "	26	
19 "	11	
20 "	17	
21 "	8	
22 "	13	
23 "	4	(i.e. 78 from 18 months to 2 years.)
24 "	38	
25 "	26	
26 "	19	
27 "	11	
28 "	18	
29 "	17	
30 "	21	
31 to 35 months	32	(i.e. 182 from 2 to 3 years.
over 3 years.	86	
" 4 "	56	
" 5 "	38	
" 6 "	29	
" 7 "	14	
" 8 "	13	
" 9 "	7	
" 10 "	3	
" 11 "	8	
over 12 years (2)		
over 19 " (2) and one in each for 14, 15, 18, and 28 years.		

AGE OF MOTHER WITH REFERENCE TO NUMBER OF PREGNANCY

NO. OF PREGNANCY.	AGE / TOTAL.	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46
1st.	224	1		2	10	16	16	28	29	24	19	13	15	9	12	4	8	2	5	4	4			1		1						1	
2nd.	168			1	1	3	2	16	12	15	15	10	11	12	9	8	8	6	7	3	6	3	5	2	2					1			1
3rd	113				1		1		4	4	7	7	12	16	16	5	6	6	6	4	4	2	4	2	2	1		1			1	1	
4th	79							1		1	4	5	3	5	2	6	4	4	8	6	4	5	4	2	1	4	4	2	2	1			1
5th	37											1	1	5	1	2	2	2	3	4	2	6			2	4	1				1		
6th	27													1		4	1	2	4	4	3	2	1	1	1	1		1	1				
7th	28												1			1		1	1	4	4	1	4	2	3	3	2				1		
8th	15																	1		2	2	3	3			2		1		1			
9th	10																				1	2	1	1			2		1	1			1
10th	9																				1	1			1			2	2	1	1		
11th	4																								1		1		1	1			
12th	-																																
13th	2																										1			1			
14th	1																															1	
	707	1	-	3	12	19	19	45	45	44	45	36	43	48	39	30	29	24	34	33	31	25	22	11	13	16	11	7	7	7	4	3	3

FOR OF MONTH SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBER OF HOURS WORK

AGE	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES
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NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES																																														

Illegitimate Births.

No. of pregnancy.	Age of mother.
1st.	15
1st.	18.
1st.	19
1st	20
1st	22
1st	22
1st	23
1st	27
2nd	3 0
?	35
1st	37
2nd	37
1st	40

Illegitimate Births.

No. of pregnancy.	Age of mother.
1st.	16
1st.	18.
1st.	19
1st	20
1st	22
1st	22
1st	23
1st	27
2nd	3 0
?	35
1st	37
2nd	37
1st	40

I N F A N T M O R T A L I T Y.

The total number of deaths amongst infants during the year was 51, the rate per 1,000 births being 66. The heaviest mortality was from the following causes, viz.,

Premature Birth	18
Pneumonia	9
Whooping Cough	6
"Convulsions"	6

As to period of survival, the figures were

	1925	1924	1923
Under 1 month	19	22	23
1 to 3 months	19	4	9
4 to 6 ,,	4	10	9
7 to 9 ,,	3	8	2
10 to 12 ,,	4	2	9
	51	46	52

It will be noted in the comparative figures that for the past year there would appear to be a substantial diminution in the relative proportion of neo-natal deaths to the total.

There is a distinct increase in the number of deaths attributed to "Convulsions", as compared with recent years. The explanation of this is not apparent, there having been no very marked departure from the record "Breast-feeding" of former years, and the statistics show that the number of deaths from Diarrhoea was small. Whooping Cough was fairly prevalent throughout the year in all parts of the area, but complications were infrequent..

I present a Table of the causes and ages of deaths of children throughout the year.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths amongst infants during the year was 81, the rate per 1,000 birth being 88. The heaviest mortality was from the following causes, viz.,

Premature Birth	32
Pneumonia	13
Whooping Cough	8
"Convulsions"	6

As to period of survival, the figures were

Under	1 month	1924	1925	1926
1 to 3	months	19	22	23
4 to 6	"	4	10	9
7 to 9	"	3	8	2
10 to 12	"	6	2	9
		31	42	52

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It will be noted in the comparative figures that for the past year there world ap ear to be a substantial diminution in the relative proportion of non-natal deaths to the total.

There is a distinct increase in the number of deaths attributed to "Convulsions", as compared with recent years. The explanation of this is not apparent, there having been no very marked departure from the recent "Breast-feeding" of former years, and the statistics show that the number of deaths from Diarrhoea was small. Whooping Cough was fairly prevalent throughout the year in all parts of the area, but complications were infrequent. I present a Table of the causes and ages of deaths of children throughout the year.

STATISTICS OF DEATHS AMONG INFANTS.

	Under one month.		MONTHS. 1		2.		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11		Aggregate for year.		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Premature Birth.	6	6			1																				7	6	13
Malformation.		1																								1	1
Injury at birth		1																								1	1
Pneumonia	1				1		1	1							1	1	1							2	5	4	9
Bronchitis.					1																1				2		2
Whooping Cough.			1	1	1	1								1											2	3	5
Measles.														1									1		1	1	2
Diarrhoea										2																2	2
Convulsions.	2		2				1	1																	5	1	6
Influenza.																							1		1		1
Congenital Debility	1		1																						2		2
Pyloric Stenosis (Alimentary)							1																		1		1
Rachitis.			1																						1		1
Tuberculous Meningitis.								1																		1	1
Hernia.																							1		1		1
Icterus.	1																								1		1
Overlying.				1			1	1																	1	1	2
Total deaths.....	M. 11	F. 8	M. 5	F. 2	M. 4	F. 1	M. 4	F. 3	M. 0	F. 2	M. 0	F. 0	M. 0	F. 2	M. 1	F. 1	M. 1	F. 0	M. 0	F. 0	M. 0	F. 0	M. 3	F. 2	M. 30	F. 21	51.
	under one month.		1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11		Total for year.		

	1	5	3	4	2	7	8	9	10	11			
	MONTHS.												
	2	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total for one month.	Average for one month.
	M.	F.	M.	M.	M.	M.	M.	M.	M.	M.	M.	M.	M.
Overlying.		J											
Infants.			J									J	S
Health.												J	J
Improvement noticeable.										J		J	J
Recovery.											J	J	J
Patient discharged (A) improved	J											J	J
Convalescent relapsed.			J									J	J
Intemperate.												J	J
Consumptive.			S									J	S
Diarrhoea.												J	S
Measles.					S								S
Mortality.												J	J
Approximate Cause.												J	J
Phthisis.		J	J									J	J
Rheumatism.		J	J									J	J
Injury at birth.		J	J									J	J
Malformation.		J	J									J	J
Premature Birth.		J	J									J	J
Total for month.	2	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	73	6 1/4

STATISTICS OF DEATHS AMONG INFANTS.

HEALTH VISITING.

Infant Mortality figures.

(Old Borough)

The period of the year with reference to Infant deaths was:-

1891 - 1900			Average 169			
1901 - 1913	January	13	" 137			
	February	8				
	March	3	Total for 1st quarter			19
1914	April	6	Average 122			
1915	May	3	" 104			
1916	June	3	" " 2nd	"		12
1917	July	5	" 72			
1918	August	3	" 90			
1919	September	1	" " 3rd	"		9
1920	October	2	" 68			
1921	November	4	" 85			
1922	December	4	" " 4th	"		10
	(extended Borough)					
1923			" 70			
1924			" 63			
1925			" 65			

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January	13		
February	8		
March	3	Total for 1st quarter	19
April	6		
May	3		
June	3	" " 2nd "	12
July	5		
August	3		
September	1	" " 3rd "	9
October	2		
November	4		
December	4	" " 4th "	10

HEALTH VISITING.

The work of the [illegible] continues to meet with public approval. Much of their success undoubtedly lies in the fact that all served their apprenticeship, so to speak, in District Nursing, and the work done in this connection [illegible] duty. Thus when any emergency arises they are practically fitted to deal with it, as has been seen more than once in recent years, when, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the local district association's midwives happened to be unable to attend their cases and the Association could not get substitutes anywhere. In such a position the Association have asked for my help, when I have for the short period of the emergency placed at their service the Health Visitors. As they are also engaged in School Nursing the whole of the child life of the community is linked up with the work of health visiting. Every effort is made by the nurses to maintain the breast-feeding position. That a figure of 91 % has been attained is highly creditable, when one considers the many temptations which are placed in the way of the mothers. The long-tubed bottle has practically disappeared, and the old-fashioned shawl is fast following it. The sale of artificial infant foods continues to diminish, as far as can be judged by the displays in the chemists' windows, and the use of cotton "binders" is not nearly so prevalent as formerly. I regret to state that with regard to the "dummy" it is impossible to show any lessening in numbers. Whether any improvement will take place in this respect before the State prevents the sale of these articles seems most doubtful. There is still also a good attendance of infants - in - arms at the "first house" of the cinemas. Undoubtedly this gives rise to much illness, especially in the shape of chest troubles, and such diseases as Whooping Cough, for instance, would probably have short life were this source shut off.

Infant Mortality figures.

(Old Borough)

1891 - 1900	Average	169
1901 - 1913	"	137

Health Visiting begins.

1914	Average	122
1915	"	104
1916	"	106
1917	"	72
1918	"	90
1919	"	75
1920	"	68
1921	"	86
1922	"	92

(extended Borough)

1923	"	70
1924	"	63
1925	"	65

Infant Mortality figures.

(Old Borough)

1891 - 1900	Average	169
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Health Visiting begins.

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SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

There are 3 Centres in the Borough, one in each ward, with the fixed times of meeting respectively on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons. The attendances are well maintained at each centre, although it must be admitted that there is a strong tendency to look on the Welfare as a place to which sick children should be brought for examination and advice, as well as for those who are not sick. This is well shown in the returns of cases dealt with during the year. It should be made clear that there is no encouragement given by the staff to bring about such a state of affairs, and whatever treatment is given the expense is laid upon the parent to provide the materials necessary for continuance of any form of medication, as I have always insisted in the organization of the Centres that all forms of bribery in the shape of free treatment shall be avoided. It is proof of the fact that this is an unnecessary form of pauperisation that parents come in increasing numbers with their children for advice, knowing that they will get this and no more. Similarly there is no encouragement given as to the obtaining of artificial substitutes for the mother's milk, and in fact every effort is concentrated on the breast supply and nothing else. In former times there was much artificial feeding with the long-tubed bottle, well reflected in the figures for infant mortality, but those days seem to be passing away. The rule is also maintained as to the 4-hourly interval feeding in all cases, whether they happen to be breast-fed or otherwise, and where the breast supply seems to be insufficient, the supplementing by cow's milk at the end of every breast feed is enjoined, but any attempt to give cow's milk alone at a feed is strenously opposed. Thus one has been able many times to bring back to normal the breast function, when the chances seemed all against.

HEALTH VISITING.

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SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

In consequence of very serious flooding of a small area in Briton Ferry, especially at periods of spring-tides accompanied by heavy rains, a serious attempt was made to deal with the trouble. It was found that the sewer outfall to the east (Baglan) side was in a very bad state of repair and requiring renewal of several lengths of piping. The district subject to flooding lies at a lower level than is generally reached by the highest spring-tides, and it seemed impossible to alter this. I therefore suggested accessory chambers being provided to receive any excessive sewage and if necessary pumping of sewage to the required height to admit of its draining away. This proceedin has for some time been carried out by the Great Western Railway at a point where they are responsible for dealing with it. Meanwhile a connection has been made w with the western outfall whereby the flooding has considerably abated.

Scavenging under the Corporation has been carried out successfully during the year. Refuse Bins are in existence in certain areas, notably on Kimla Common and at Warren Hill. Such structures are highly offensive to eye and nose, and are extensively used by children and other animals. Refuse is still tipped, there being one tip for the north ward and another for Briton Ferry. The available ground is rapidly being filled up,, and though there is much space on th marsh lands to the west, this district is not easily approached by carts for the purpose.

There is still too much indiscriminate dumping of household refuse on the streets for hours before the carts make their visits, which does not convey a good impression to the casual visitor, to say the least of it.

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HOUSING.

The existence in the borough of slum property has been frequently commented upon. The erection of houses, the economic rent of which cannot be met by many of those now living in unhealthy conditions calls for great thought. I present statistics giving the number of children born in apartments, which shows that a disastrous social condition exists and is almost being perpetuated. Such huddling together of families, whether related or not, seems contrary to human tradition, and greater provision ought to be made to meet the case of persons making a start in life, whereby they can get a home of their own. Another very serious issue is constantly being borne in upon the health staff by the insistent demands of those suffering from tuberculosis for decent accomodation. Statistics of the conditions in which some of these people hang on would create a very painful impression on the public mind, in addition to the raising of serious questioning as to the justification of expenditure in treating tuberculous patients in sanatoria with such prospects on their discharge. Further, a goodly number of old people, old-age pensioners for example, receive no consideration in any housing scheme. The entire absence of semblance of elasticity in housing provision has for many years been a disconcerting feature in connection with many municipal schemes. At one time one heard of rationing houses to the family strength in numbers, but the nucleus of a sound idea in this respect seems to have disappeared. The provision of "subsidy" schemes has been a great boon to many, in obtaining place for decent existence, whilst the exercise of the practice of economy in paying off the loans must prove of material benefit to the nation at large from the social standpoint. With the high price of materials it is difficult to foresee any definite clearing off of the huge housing shortage, but every effort is being made by the Town Council to find ways and means to help on any housing provision.

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Number of new houses erected during the year 1925 :-

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b) 166

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts

(1) By the Local Authority 47

(2) By other Bodies or persons 119

1. Unfit dwelling-houses.

Inspection- (1). Total number of houses inspected for housing defects(under the Public Health or Housing Acts) 3,872

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. .....Nil.

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 50

(4) Number of dwelling-houses(exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 663

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 103

3. Action under Statutary Powers.

A.- Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..... Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-.....Nil.

(a) By owners ..... Nil.

(b) By local authority in default of owners..... Nil.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in persuance of declarations by owners of intentions to close. .....Nil.

B- Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 663

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners. 663

(b) By local Authority in default of owners. Nil

C.- Proceedings under sections 11,14,& 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders. ... Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were made..... Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit. Nil

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... Nil

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in persuance of demolition orders. ..... Ni

Number of new houses erected during the year 1928 :-
(a) Total including number given separately under (b) 186
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(4) Number of dwelling-houses(exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 883

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal Notices.
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 108

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The following statistics have been kindly supplied by the Markets Manager, Mr Arthur Lewis:-

No. of animals slaughtered at Borough slaughter-house:-

Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
1742.	1458.	12326	6455	21981.

No. of Butchers' Shops in the Borough ..... 36.

No. of Provision (Meat, Dairy etc.,) Stalls in General Market:-

Butchers' Shops	.....	15.
Refreshment "	.....	6
Dairy, Poultry etc, Stalls	.....	17
Rabbits	"	8
Fruit etc.	"	23
Biscuits, Sweets etc,	"	24

Estimated No. of people who live in vans during September Fair Week - - about 350.

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No. of Butchers' Shops in the Borough ..... 38.

No. of Provision (Meat, Dairy etc.,) Stalls in General Market:-

Butchers' Shops	18.
Refreshment "	8
Dairy, Poultry etc. Stalls.....	17
Rabbits "	8
Fruit etc. "	23
Biscuits, Sweets etc. "	24

Estimated No. of people who live in vans during September Fair Week - - about 350.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Statistics are presented of slaughtering carried out in the public abbatoir. There are 3 private slaughter-houses within the borough, these being situated in outlying parts. They are frequently inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors, and all reports are satisfactory, the owners invariably calling in the Inspectors when there is any doubt in their minds as to the healthy condition of the carcases.

The public slaughter-house is visited on all killing days, and all carcases are examined before removal. The butchers' shops also are frequently visited, and the quality of the meat may be stated as very good. During the year the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924 came into force. Conferences were held with Butchers and Grocers, and all seemed anxious to further the best possible means of carrying out the Regulations in harmony with the ideas of the Health staff. Neath was the first place where successful prosecutions took place under those Regulations.

FACTORY INSPECTION.

The usual statistics are presented in respect of inspection under the Factory Acts.

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I must apologise to the Council for the lateness of the completion of this report. The difficulties in connection with office accomodation have militated against earlier completion. With the proposed new offices this should be obviated in future.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. M. Morris. Medical Officer of Health.

NEATH. DECEMBER 1926.

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MEATH. DECEMBER 1926.

BOROUGH OF HEATH.

ANNUAL REPORT

of

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH,

(For the Year 1925.)

BOROUGH OF HEATH.

ANNUAL REPORT

of

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH,

(For the Year 1925.)

Neath supplementary (1925)

LOCAL ACTS.

Session and Chapter.		Title or Short Title
5 & 6. Wm IV.	C. Liii.	Neath Markets Act.
24 & 25 Vict.	C XLV	Neath Water Supply Act. 1861.
28 & 29 Vict.	C. CXLi	Neath Water (Extension) Act.1865
29 & 30 Vict.	C. CCXVIii	The New Neath Gas Act. 1866.
36 & 37 Vict.	C. XXXiii	The Neath Gas Act. 1873.
37 & 38 Vict.	C. 6	Neath Corporation Gas Act.1874.
48 & 49 Vict.	C. CLXXXVi	The Neath Waterworks Act.1885.
57 & 58 Vict	C. LXXXiii	The Neath Corporation Water Act.1894.
60 & 61 Vict.	C. LV	The Neath Corporation Tramways Act.1897.
11 & 12 Geo, 5	C.civ.	The Aberavon & Neath Extension Act 1921.

BYE - LAWS.

Bye-laws New Streets and Buildings	8th January, 1900.
Bye-Laws New Streets and Buildings	13th August, 1907.
Bye-Laws Employment of Children Act.	17th November,1921.

ADOPTED ACTS.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act 1890.

Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1890

Public Health Act Amendment Act 1907

Public Libraries Acts. 1892 to 1919

LOCAL ACTS.

Session and Chapter.	Title or Short Title
5 & 6. Vic IV. C. LIII.	Neath Market Act.
24 & 25 Vict. C XLV	Neath Water Supply Act. 1923.
25 & 26 Vict. C. CXLI	Neath Water (Extension) Act.18
29 & 30 Vict. C. CCIVIII	The New Neath Act. 1866.
36 & 37 Vict. C. XXXIII	The Neath Gas Act 1873.
37 & 38 Vict. C. 8	Neath Corporation Gas Act.1874
48 & 49 Vict. C. CLXXXVI	The Neath Waterworks Act.1885.
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ADOPTED ACTS.

Prevention

Infectious Diseases Act	1890.
Public Health Act Amendment Act.	1890
Public Health Act Amendment Act	1907
Public Libraries Acts.	1892 to 1919

(2). Arrangements in force for Chemical Work.

The chemical work of the borough is carried out by the Public Analyst, Mr R.P.Charles, F.I.C.& F.C.S:

(3). The milk supply during the year has been of excellent quality. In the main it is received from adjacent farms, with a subsidiary quantity from Carmarthenshire. All samples submitted to the public analyst were found to be free from preservatives. No samples of cream were submitted for analysis.

(4). Sanitary condition of schools.
There are 10 schools in the borough, one being a temporary building in an outlying part for infants only. Two schools are very inadequate from points of lighting and ventilation: these are under consideration of the Education Committee for transference to other premises:

The W.Cs. in the case of four of the schools are on the trough system, whilst six have pedestal closets. In three of the four trough schools there are from time to time complaintsm as to infrequency of flushing.

"Dusmo" is in use for cleaning in all the schools.

The water supply is from the mains and is satisfactory in quantity, but the absence of drinking cups is prevalent.

(5). The amount expended in Poor Law relief for the year was £ 13,837 in cash: £~~2~~,818 in kind:
(4,818)

(6). Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Report of Sanitary Inspector:
The following are details of work carried out furing the year 1925:

	No. of Inspections:	No. of Defects:	Result of Inspection:
Houses	3,872	766	Defects remedied:
Factories	30	2	,, ,,
Workshops & Workplaces	201	5	,, ,,

	Informal	Formal
No. of Notices	108	663
Result	Work carried out	In all cases
	Work not carried out	Nil.

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(3). The milk supply during the year has been of excellent quality. In the main it is received from adjacent farms, with a subsidiary quantity from Carmarthenshire. All samples submitted to the public analyst were found to be free from preservatives. No samples of cream were submitted for analysis.

(4). Sanitary condition of schools.

There are 10 schools in the borough, one being a temporary building in an outlying part for infants only. Two schools are very inadequate from points of lighting and ventilation: these are under consideration of the Education Committee for transference to other premises: The W.Cs. in the case of four of the schools are on the trough system, whilst six have pedestal closets. In three of the four trough schools there are from time to time complaints as to infrequency of flushing. "Duano" is in use for cleaning in all the schools. The water supply is from the mains and is satisfactory in quantity, but the absence of drinking cups is prevalent.

(5). The amount expended in Poor Law relief for the year was £ 12,827 in cash: £ 6,818 in kind:
(14,818)

(6). Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Report of Sanitary Inspector:
The following are details of work carried out during the year 1922:

	No. of Inspections:	No. of Defects:	Result of Inspections:
Houses	3,872	738	Defects remedied
Factories	30	2	" "
Workshops & Workplaces	201	5	" "

	Informal	Formal
No. of Notices	108	223
Result	Work carried out	In all cases
	Work not carried out	Nil.

(6). Sanitary Inspection of the Area Continued:

The principal defects noted in the inspection of dwelling houses are classified as under:

Drains choked	143
W.C. Defective	168
Water supply defective	156
General Repairs required	171
Dampness	73
Presence of Rats	11
Keeping Pigs	4
Refuse accumulations	4

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Inspection of Common Lodging Houses:

No. of Lodging Houses:	No. of Beds	No. of Inspections:	No. of Defects found:
11	280	41	6.

The defects found were cases of uncleanliness. Owing to conditions of unemployment there was no overcrowding noted.

Disinfection of premises:

No. of Disindections carried out during the year 294.

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(7). Milk supply - Administration of Acts & Orders as per page 8 (a) of Circular:

(i). Noa action taken:
(ii). No licences granted:
(iii). No action taken:
(iv) No bacteriological examination of milk:

No action was taken under the Avts of 1915 or 1922, or under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders.

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(8). No. of private slaughterhouses:

	In 1920	In Jan. 1925	In Dec. 1925.
Registered	0	3	3
Licensed	0	0	0
Total	0	3	3

- -

(9). Unsound food: Food Inspection:

	Milk:	Butter:	Lard:	Coffee;	Margarine:
Samples taken	108	18	6	1	1
Result of Analysis					
Bad	2	0	0	0	0

(5). Sanitary Inspection of the Area Continued:

The principal defects noted in the inspection of Dwelling houses are classified as under:

Drains choked	142
W.C. Defective	128
Water supply defective	152
General Repairs required	171
Dampness	73
Presence of Rats	11
Keeping Pigs	4
Refuse accumulations	4

- -

Inspection of Cooper Lodging Houses:

No. of Lodging Houses:	No. of Beds	No. of Inspections:	No. of Defects found
11	250	41	6.

The defects found were cases of Uncleanliness. Owing to condition of unemployment there was no overcrowding noted.

Disinfection of premises:

No. of Disinfections carried out during the year 524.

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(7). Milk supply - Administration of Acts & Orders as per page 8 (a) of Circular:

(i). No action taken:
(ii). No licences granted:
(iii). No action taken:
(iv) No bacteriological examination of milk:

No action was taken under the Acts of 1915 or 1922, or under the Dairies,Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders.

- -

(8). No. of private slaughterhouses:

	In 1920	In Jan. 1926	In Dec.1925
Registered	0	3	3
Licensed	0	0	0
Total	0	3	3

- -

(9). Unsound food: Meat Inspection:

	Pigs	Butter	Eggs	Coffee	Herrings
Samples taken	128	16	4	1	1

Result of Analysis

Nil	2	0	0	0	0

(9). **Food Inspection continued:**

In the two cases of milk giving unsatisfactory analysis prosecution with conviction followed in both:

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Meat Inspection

During the year the following details of unsound meat were discovered, surrender being obtained in all cases:

Beef :	Pigs:	Mutton:	Veal:	Rabbits:
11 Carcases	16	5	2	12
4 Qarters:				

Of edible offal the amount taken was 3,436 lbs.

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(10). (a) Primary vaccinations Nil
(b) Revaccinations Nil.

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(11). No action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 was taken during the year.

J. M. Morris.

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Hoxton

Supplementary Report

of

Medical Officer of Health

(for the year 1925)