## [Report 1948] / Medical Officer of Health, Pembroke Borough.

#### **Contributors**

Pembroke (Wales). Borough Council.

#### **Publication/Creation**

1948

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## BOROUGH OF PEMBROKE.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1948.

To His Worship the Mayor, and Members of the Council,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1948.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Resident Population, (Registrar General's Estimate) 1948

England & Wales.

Birth Rate	22.1	per	1,000	pop.	17.9
Death Rate	15	per	1,000	pop.	10.8
Infantile					
Mortality Rate	65.3	per	1,000	Births.	34

It will be noted that the Birth Rate is higher than that for the whole of the country.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is very considerably higher Of the Sixteen Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age, ten or 62.5% were due to Prematurity and Congenital Diseases; four, or 25% were due to Pneumonia, one was due to Asphyxia due to regurgitation of food, and one to Malnutrition and general neglect. Only one of these deaths was of an illegitimate child, and that was due to pneumonia.

The Death Rate is higher than that for the whole of the country. 49.4% of the deaths registered were of persons over 70 years of age, including 19.3% of persons over the age of 80 years.

#### Causes of Death.

		F.
All Causes	82	84
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System		2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2	1
Syphilitic Diseases	1	0
Influenza	1	1
Cancer	15	7
Diabetes	0	5
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	9	11
Heart Diseases	13	24
Diseases of Circulatory System	2	0
Bronchitis	3	1
Pneumonia	3 0 2	7
	2	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	4
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	0	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years	0	
Other Diseases of Digestive Organs	2	0
Nephritis	2	3
Premature Birth	5	2
Congenital Malformation & Birth Injuries	2 5 3 1	0
Road Traffic Accidents		-
Other Violent Causes	4	2
All Other Causes	10	15

Still Births: 8 or 3.3% of Total Births.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year: 16 or 6.5% of Total Births.

Illegitimate Births: 15 or 6.1% of Total Births.

## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever 4. Whooping Cough 8.

Measles 6. Pneumonia 8.

Erysipelas 1.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

Ten cases of Tuberculosis were notified, of which nine were pulmonary.

There were four deaths from pulmonary Tuberculosis, and three deaths were from other forms of Tuberculosis.

The arrangements for hospital treatment, which were made by the Welsh National Memorial Association are now made by the Regional Hospital Board; but there is still the same delay in admission of patients, owing to the lack of nursing staff.

The County Council is no longer responsible for the working of the scheme for allowances to dependents of tuberculous patients, which is now undertaken by the National Assistance Board.

### IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Immunisation is carried out by the local Doctors at their Surgeries, and by Dr. Evan Jones at the School Clinic, and payment is made by the County Council.

The number of children immunised in 1948 was:-

Under 5 years of age:- 176
Between 5-15 years of age:- 65 Total 241.
Reinforcing injections:- 221

Dorothy M. Rees,

Medical Officer of Health.



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## BOROUGH OF PEMBROKE

## ANNUAL REPORT

of the

## SANITARY INSPECTOR

### For the year 1947

To: - His Worship the Mayor and Corporation of the Borough of Pembroke.

Mr. Mayor, Miss Sinnett and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my Annual

Report for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

## OFFICERS

Sanitary Inspector - C. R. Sandell.

Certificate of the Sanitary Inspector's Examination
Joint Board. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary
Institute for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.

Sanitary Inspector's Assistant - L. S. Scourfield.
On National Service.

Clerk and Shorthand-Typist - Miss J. Rees.

Certificate of the Central Welsh Board, Certificate of the Royal Society of Arts for Typing and Book-keeping.

Assistant Rodent Officer - B. T. Howells.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

#### WATER

70

The bulk of water supply in the Borough is pumped from Milton Springs to Stephens Green Reservoir. From there it gravitates to the Golden Hill Reservoir whence it is distributed throughout the Borough. There is another small Reservoir known as Imble Reservoir which is fed by the Imble Springs and from the Golden Hill Reservoir. The Imble Reservoir supplies certain portions of the lower area of Pembroke Dock. All water pumped from the Milton Springs is chlorinated and subsequently dechlorinated. The water from the Imble Springs is pure and chlorination is unnecessary.

The water, after treatment where necessary, is satisfactory in quality. The Water supply is adequate for the present needs of the Borough but the storage accommodation is inadequate. It is for this reason the Council propose to proceed with the construction of a new 2,000,000 gallon Reservoir in the neighbourhood of Norchard Beacon. This scheme, in addition to providing extra storage accommodation, will greatly improve the pressure in the upper area of Pembroke Dock.

The only portion of the Borough, other than isolated cases, to which the piped water supply is not available is the village of Maiden Wells. The water supply here is by means of a public pump the water from which is shown by bacteriological examination to be contaminated. The Council are of course not satisfied with this position and are going ahead, in collaboration with the Pembroke Rural District Council, with a temporary scheme to supply the village with water pumped from Milton Water Works. This temporary scheme will be replaced finally by a permanent scheme when the Pembroke Rural District Council are in a position to go ahead with their Western Area scheme.

Regular bacteriological examinations are carried out on samples of water. The results of the samples taken during 1947 were as follows:-

# Bacteriological

## Chemical

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
18	13	5	-

I have to point out to the Council that, although the above table shows that 13 samples were unsatisfactory, they were, with one exception, samples of unchlorinated water.

The exception was one sample, taken in Pembroke Dock, of chlorinated water from Milton mixed with unchlorinated from Imble Spring. Although I have classed the result as "unsatisfactory" I think perhaps that a better classification would be "doubtful". The result showed that only one coliform bacillus was present per 100 m.l. The significance of the presence of the one coliform organism depends on its origin. If from the chlorinated moiety of the water, it indicates inadequate chlorination; but if from the untreated it is of much less significance. All previous subsequent samples from the same source gave satisfactory results.

#### DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE

During the year a definite start was made on the preparation of plans for the Kingswood sewerage scheme. It is intended that, when this scheme is finally completed, it will serve the new factories at Kingswood and other premises in the Waterloo and Llanion area.

In addition small drainage improvements were carried out at 13 premises.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

During the year the drainage conversion scheme was almost completed. Approximately 61 premises were converted to the watercloset system and connected to the public sewer. This left approximately 12 premises included in the scheme to be connected to the public sewer during 1948.

The number of closets of each type remaining at the end of the year was approximately as follows:-

Waterclosets Bucket Closets Privies
3,000 200 100

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING

During the year a number of complaints was received concerning the collection of refuse in Pembroke Dock. These complaints were in turn brought to the notice of the contractor who, mainly due to labour difficulties, finally decided to terminate his contract. The Council, after inviting and considering tenders and after having given the matter every consideration, eventually decided to inaugurate their own refuse collection service throughout the whole of the Borough by means of direct labour and a mechanically propelled vehicle. They therefore placed an order for a Shelvoke & Drewry 7 cu yd refuse freighter. The contractor eventually agreed to continue to collect refuse in Pombroke Dock pending the delivery of the new vohicle.

Refuse was disposed of by means of tipping. are a total of 6 tips in the Borough - 3 in the Pater Ward and 3 in the Pembroke Ward.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION

The following is a tabular statement showing

(a) The Number and Nature of Inspections made during the year.

(b) The Number of Statutory and other Notices served during

the year.

(c) The result of the service of such notices.

## General Sanitation

Water Supply Drainage	16 119
Factories	1
Public Conveniences Refuse Collection	1
Refuse Disposal	11
Rats and Mice	132
Schools	12
Miscellaneous Visits	48
Water Samples (Bacteriological)	31
(Chomical)	5

#### Under Public Health Act

Number of	Houses	Inspected	429
Rovisits			418

### Under Housing Act

Number of	Houses	Inspected	11
Revisits			38
	Overer	owding	

Number of Houses Inspected 201

#### Meat and Food Inspection

Abattoir	159
Visits to shops	2
Butchers	12
Pishmongers	1
Grocers	65
Greengrocers	1
Cowsheds	5
Dairies	3
Ice-cream Premises	2
Food preparing premises	2
Market Stalls	3

## Meat and Food Inspection (Cont.)

Naafi	29
Milk Samples	314
Pembroke Dock Station	10

## Infectious Disease

Miscellancous Visits	5
Tuberculosis Investigations	5

## Motices Served

Informal :	Notices	Served	117
Statutory	Notices	Served	43

## Notices Complied With

Informal	and the state of t	43
Statutory		6

## SHOPS and OFFICES

I regret that due to pressure of other work I have found it impossible to take any action in respect of shops and offices during the year under the provisions of the Shops Acts 1934 and the Public Health Act 1936, respectively.

## CAMPING SITES

- (1) The number of sites in the Borough which were used for camping purposes during 1947 was, to the best of my knowledge, 7.
- (2) The number of camping sites, in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936, was 1.
- (3) The estimated maximum number of campers resident in the Borough at one time during the summer season 1947 was 35.

In connection with the above figures I have to point out that the campers on the above sites were not campers in the ordinary sense of the word but were residents of a more or less permanent or semi-permanent nature. In addition to the 1 site licensed under Section 269 the campers on 2 other sites were licensed, under that section, to erect or station and use movable dwellings. The occupants of the other 4 sites which are not licensed were persons more of the gypsy class and are situated considerable distances from the town.

I hope during 1948 to make a thorough inspection of these unlicensed sites and either have them licensed or their use as camping sites discontinued.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT

No action was necessary during the year in connection with smoke abatement.

#### SWIMMING BATHS and POOLS

In the Borough there are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public.

## ERADICATION OF BEDBUGS

I am pleased to be able to report that houses in the Borough appear to be singularly free from infestation by bedbugs. No Council houses were infested and only one other house, which has subsequently been disinfested by spraying with Zaldecide.

I am also pleased to be able to report that so far the standard of the type of tenant removing to Council houses has been very high and it has not been considered necessary to inspect their belongings for vermin before removal.

When a case of infestation by bedbugs is discovered the usual practice is for the Council to carry out the work on payment by the person responsible for the infest-After disinfestation the occupier is advised to notify me immediately if he should see any signs of more bugs. If re-infestation occurs in a very short time the premises are disinfested free of charge.

### SCHOOLS

There are 7 schools in the Borough and they are now all under the control of the Pembrokeshire County L. E. A. They all have a piped town water supply. The drainage arrangements were as follows:-

Albion Square School - Trough closets connected to the

... public sewer. - Trough closets connected to the Coronation School

public sewer.
- Individual pans connected to a East End School

cesspit. - Trough closets connected to the Llanion School

public sewer.
- Individual pans connected to the

Monkton School . public sewer.

Pemi roke Dock

Garmmar School - Individual pans connected to the

public sewer.
- Individual pans connected to the Pennar School public sewer.

Maintenance of schools was of necessity to some extent neglected during war years but the L.E.A. are now in the process of re-organising and re-decorating a number of schools.

Cases of infectious disease among school children are visited and both cases and contacts are excluded, where necessary, in accordance with the recommendations of the Memorandum on "Closure of and Exclusion from School".

#### HOUSING

The general standard of housing in the Borough is very poor. There are a lot of small poor class cottages many of which are in a bad condition.

The comparatively heavy airraids in 1940 and 1941 did nothing to improve the condition of any of the houses in Pembroke Dock. However the Council have done their utmost to have repairs carried out and during the year approximately £65,000 was spent on war damage repairs. Numerous houses received varying degrees of attention and repairs approximately to 110 were completed.

In addition the Council pursued a vigorous house building programme, During the year, they completed their first 118 houses as follows:-

first 118 houses as follows:-					
Pen	broke	Pembroke Dock	Totals		
Permanent	14(Groom Meadow)	19 (Ferry Road)	33		
Temporary	16(Jograms)	69 (Britannia Estate)	85		
Total	30	88	118		
houses the	Council re-housed	d and rebuilt war damage 118 families during the ersons re-housed in Corp y 396.			
	HOUSIN	G STATISTICS			
1. INSPECT	TION OF DWELLING-HOU	SES DURING THE YEAR:-			
(1) (a)	housing defects (Un	lling-houses inspected ider Public Health or440	or		
· (b)	Number of inspection	ns made for the 1,047			
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling- under sub-head (1) inspected and recor Housing Consolidate and 1932	above) which were			
(b)	Number of inspection	ons made for the			
(3)	a state so dangerou health as to be unf	houses found to be in as or injurious to it for human habita			
(4)	those referred to u subhead) found not	houses (exclusive of under the preceding to be in all respects human habitation 117			
	OF DEFECTS DURING T	HE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE			
	ed fit in consequer	e dwelling-houses render- nce of informal action city or their officers 4			
3. ACTION	UNDER STATUTORY POV	WERS DURING THE YEAR:-			
(a) - Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:					
W	umber of dwelling-he hich notices were se epairs	ouses in respect of erved requiring			
	(11) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal				

(a) by owners..... NIL
(b) by Local Authority in default of

notices:-

(b) -	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:-  (a) by owners
(c) -	Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 1
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders NIL
(d) -	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made NIL
(11)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit
. HOU	SING ACT, 1936 - PART 1V - OVERCROWDING:-
(a)-(	1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year Not known
(1	1) Number of families dwelling therein Not known
(11	1) Number of persons dwelling therein Not known
(b) -	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 7
(c)-(	1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year
(1	1) Number of persons concerned in such cases 64
(a) -	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling- houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding NIL
INSPEC	TION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

# MILK SUPPLY

The number of Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Purveyors registered in the Borough was 51. 36 of these were producer-retailers, 21 being in the Borough and 15 outside the Borough. 6 cowkeepers were licensed to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk - 4 within the Borough and 2 in the Rural District.

7.

1947 was the fifth year of my campaign of regular sampling. I regret that owing to a vast increase in the volume of other work I was unable to take as many samples as in previous years. The result of this reduction in the number of samples taken is clearly shown by a fall in the standard of cleanliness of the milk being sold in the Borough during the year. The figures for recent years are as follows:-

Year	Number of Samples	Improvement over 1943
1944	1,099	47%
1945	1,048	60%
1946	820	84%
1947	314	54%

In spite of this lowering of keeping quality it will be seen that the cleanliness of the milk sold in the Borough last year was still 54% better than it was in 1943.

The number of farms and dairies inspected during the year was 8.

The position at the end of the year was as follows:-

	Borough	Rural	Total
Producer-retailers .	. 21	. 15	36
T. T. Producers	l <sub>k</sub>	2	6
Accredited Producers	0	1	1

## Meat and other Foods

The Public Abattoir at Bufferland was the only licensed slaughterhouse in the Borough and the slaughtering was carried on under the control of the Ministry of Food. Regular inspections were made, 159 being made during the year. The following table shows the number of carcases inspected and condemned:-

Carcases Inspected and Condemned				
exclud-	Cows.	Calves	and Lambs	Pigs
560	334	1,332	3,749	. 11
560	334	1,265	3,374	11
2	4	2	6	1
701		6	1,208	2
79%		0.6%	36%	18%
	Cattle exclud-ing cows 560 560	Cattle exclud-ing cows Cows. 560 334 560 334 2 4 701	Cattle exclud-ing cows Cows Calves 560 334 1,332 560 334 1,265  2 4 2  701 6	Cattle exclud-ing cows Cows Calves Lambs 560 334 1,332 3,749 560 334 1,265 3,374  2 4 2 6  701 6 1,208

	Cattle exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcase condemned.	8		1	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	63		_	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	8%	,	0. 0855	_	9%

When one looks at the above table the most note-worthy point is the fact that 79% of bovine animals inspected were affected with disease other than Tuberculosis. At first sight this figure looks somewhat alarming but I have to point out that the figure whilst being substantially accurate, does not convey a true picture. The vast proportion of cattle affected with disease other than Tuberculosis are infested with a parasite known as Distoma Hepaticum. In many cases this merely means that 2 or 3 lbs of liver have to be condemned and that the rest of the carcase is perfectly fit for human consumption. This parasite is particularly prevalent in damp climates. I take this opportunity of drawing the Council's attention to the point in order to reassure them as to the quality of the cattle being sent in for slaughter at the Public Abattoir.

The above remarks apply in a lesser degree to the figure of 36% for sheep and lambs.

The Pembroke Dock Market was held each Friday and 3 visits were made during the year.

71 visits were paid to shops and other places where food is prepared or sold. 3,975 lbs of food were condemned during the year in addition to the 19,513 lbs of meat and offal condemned at the public abattoir.

## ADULTERATION ETC .-

Sampling under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 is at present carried out by the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council and the Pembrokeshire Police. The Police are carrying out sampling in respect of milk while the Weights and Measures Department sample other foods. The following table shows the number of samples taken in the Borough during the year:-

#### Weights and Measures Department

Margarine	2
Butter	 2
Cooking Fat	2
Cheese	1
Sugar	1
Tea	1
Cocoa	1
Lemon Choese	1
Marmalade	2
Jam	1
Pearl Barley	1
Oatmeal	1

Pudding Mixture Coffee and Chicory Mustard Self-Raising Flour Malt Vinegar Soup	122132
Baking and Raising Powders Ginger Soft Drinks Fish Pastes Betox Sauces	313212

All of these samples proved genuine with the exception of one pudding mixture. As a result 19 pkts of Pudding Mixture were withdrawn from sale. During routine checking 318 packets of foodstuffs were found, upon visual examination, to be unfit for human consumption and the traders concerned readily agreed to remove them from sale.

## Police

During the year 38 samples of milk were taken in the Borough. This figure includes 3 'appeals to cows.' No proceedings were instituted.

## CHEMICAL and BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION of FOOD

Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations of food are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory Service Laboratory in Carmarthen and by H. J. Evans Esq., B.Sc., P.I.C., F.C.S. Public Analyst, County Hall, Carmarthen.

## SHELLFISH (Molluscan)

There are no shellfish beds or layings in the Borough.

## GENERAL - Infectious Disease

2 fumigations were carried out after cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever. In addition 4 disinfections were carried out after cases of Tuberculosis.

#### Complaints

During the year 594 complaints were received and the appropriate action taken in each case.

#### Rodent Control

The Council's scheme for rodent control continued during the year and I am pleased to be able to report that rodent population is considerably less than it was when the campaign was launched in 1944. 132 campaigns were carried out during the year resulting in an estimated slaughter of 4,000 rats.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Miss Sinnett and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. R. Sandell,

Municipal Offices, M. R. San. I., M. S. I. A., M. I. M. A. O., Pembroke Dock. Sanitary Inspector. 21st September, 1948.

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## BOROUGH OF PEMBROKE.

#### THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH. ANNUAL REPORT OF

#### FOR THE YEAR 1947.

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

2 3 SEP 1948

Resident Population. (Registrar General's Estimate, Med. 1947 ..... 10,720.

WELL

			Wales.
Birth Rate 27.6 per 1000 Death Rate 15.7 " " Infantile Mortality Rate 34	population	1:	
CAUSES OF DEATH	М.	F.	Total.
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System Other forms of Tuberculosis Influenza Cancer Diabetes Intracranial vascular lesions Heart diseases Other Diseases of Circulatory System Bronchitis	1 10 22 3262	613418921	
Pneumonia Other Respiratory Diseases Ulcer of Stomach Other Digestive Diseases Nephritis Births (Premature and other) Other violent causes All other causes No. of Live Births	16 3 16	192133123219	168
NO. OI LIVE BIFTING	157	139	296

Still Births 14. Deaths of infants under 1 year of age : 10 Illegitimate births :

## DIPHTHERIAL PREVENTION.

No. of children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation during 1947.

No. of children who were given a secondary or reinforcing injection (i.e. subsequent to complete full course) during 1947.

Age at date of final injection

Under 5	5 to 14	Total	Total
59	10	69	15

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever		4
Whooping Cough	3.	6
Diphtheria Measles		1.8
Pneumonia		40
Erysipelas		i
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)		12

A.D. WHITELAW, Medical Officer of Health.





